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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count Data Book provides state and county trends in the well-being of Kansas' children. The statistical portrait is based on 21 indicators of well-being: (1) births to single teens; (2) children in poverty; (3) children approved for free school meals; (4) childhood deaths; (5) infant mortality; (6) births with early prenatal care; (7) kindergartners fully immunized by age two; (8) low birth weight babies; (9) Head Start participation; (10) child care availability; (11) high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education/training; (12) births to mothers with less than the high school degree; (13) students graduating from high school; (14) out-of-home placement; (15) teen violent deaths; (16) reported child abuse and neglect; (17) substantiated child abuse and neglect; (18) juvenile court filings; (19) youth who report using alcohol in past 30 days; (20) youth who report binge drinking; and (21) youth who have ever used drugs other than alcohol. The report's overview notes that childhood and teen violent deaths declined, but rates of low birth weight babies, births to single teens and to mothers with less than a high school diploma, and reported child abuse and neglect worsened. Following this overview, the first part of the data book discusses economic assistance and childhood poverty in Kansas, and provides information on using the data book. The next section presents a description of each indicator and an alphabetical listing of each county comparing base year data from 1995-98 and the current data from 1999. The next section, and bulk of the report, presents state and county statistics for each indicator. The book concludes with data notes and an explanation of sources. (SD)

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KANSAS KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

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Sources for the data used in this book are listed on pages 163-164.
These sources remain the final authority regarding the quality and meaning of the data.

Our Work

Kansas Action for Children is a private, nonpartisan, citizen-based corporation founded in 1979. We work on behalf of all children to ensure that their physical and emotional needs are met, and that they become healthy and contributing adults.

- We *paint the picture* of Kansas children by gathering and publicizing information on child well-being through the Kansas Children's Report Card, the Kansas KIDS COUNT Data Book and special reports.
- We *advance alternatives* by developing state policy that is family- and child-friendly. Over the years, programs related to early childhood development, teen pregnancy, preventive health care, citizen's review boards and services to children in troubled families have stemmed from our work.
- We *build the base* of citizen advocacy for children by working with citizens and organizations across the state. We believe that hundreds of citizens speaking out for children can help create communities that support families and children.

2001 KANSAS KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

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KANSAS KIDS COUNT is committed to providing objective, data-driven outcome measurements for determining child well-being in our state. By highlighting state and county trends, we hope to raise public awareness about the plight of vulnerable children and encourage citizen action.

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OVERVIEW

The *2001 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* begins with a special report on economic assistance and child poverty in Kansas. This section discusses the importance of child poverty as an indicator of child well-being and the shortfalls in current measures. Information is provided on trends in child poverty nationally and at the state level. A key finding is that the problem of childhood poverty in Kansas continues to exist and has not been dramatically improved during the most recent period of sustained economic growth and low unemployment.

This special report also examines the impact of recent welfare reform legislation on children and families. The data show that participation in economic assistance programs has rebounded in 1999 and 2000, nearly returning to pre-welfare reform levels. Welfare reform has been designed for work to replace welfare, even if it does not replace poverty. Several important recommendations are provided to deal with the fact that the number of children in working poor families is growing.

Indicator Trends

The *2001 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* provides state and county data on 22 indicators of the well-being of children and families in Kansas. These indicators reflect five different areas of functioning: economic well-being, physical health and safety, childhood care and education, emotional well-being, and social behavior and control. By highlighting state and county trends, we hope to raise public awareness about the plight of vulnerable children and to encourage citizen action.

As with previous years' data books, the *2001 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* shows that gains were made on some indicators, while others lost ground and continued to worsen.

Measures Showing Significant Improvement

- Childhood death rates are down from last year and showed moderate decline in comparison to the previous five years.
- Immunization rates substantially increased.
- Head Start participation, while declining slightly from last year, made moderate improvements in comparison to the previous five years.
- The teen violent death rate decreased dramatically during the last year and in comparison to the previous five years.

Measures Remaining Steady

- Economic well-being indicators are difficult to compare primarily because of new U.S. Census estimates. Overall, it appears that these indicators show slightly worsened conditions.
- Infant mortality and early prenatal care rates showed small increases from the base years period.
- The child-care availability rate remained steady at about 26 child-care slots per 100 children.
- High school graduation rates and the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training were steady with only slight increases.
- The out-of-home placement rate, while increasing slightly over last year's rate, showed a slight decrease in comparison to the base years period.

Measures That Are Deteriorating

- The percent of low-birth-weight babies increased only slightly over last year's rate, but more noticeably in comparison to the previous five years.
- Births to single teens and births to mothers with less than a high school diploma were both up from last year and in comparison to the base years period.
- Reported child abuse and neglect and substantiated child abuse and neglect both increased.
- All of the Social Behavior and Social Control indicators showed worsening conditions in comparison to the base years period.

What You Can Do

Improvements in child well-being should certainly be recognized and celebrated. However, serious attention and energy must be devoted to those indicators that show deteriorating conditions. Awareness of the negative trends in those indicators provides us with the opportunity to make a difference in our own communities, as well as at the statewide level. Use the KIDS COUNT data to gain a better understanding of the specific issues affecting your county, and join others who have similar concerns. Determine your community's strengths and needs and become involved with changing public policy to respond positively to the data. Get to know your legislators and communicate your concerns to them; monitor the progress of legislation that affects children and families in Kansas.

Contact Kansas Action for Children at (785) 232-0550 to be placed on the legislative update list (sent via e-mail). For more information on children's issues, visit the Kansas Action for Children Web site at **www.kac.org**.

Do your part to make KIDS COUNT in Kansas!

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND CHILDHOOD POVERITY IN KANSAS

Introduction

The term "economic assistance" as used in several previous *Kansas KIDS COUNT* books refers to various federal and state programs that provide cash assistance (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, general assistance, refugee assistance, adoption subsidy, or foster care) as well as other types of aid, such as food stamps; low-cost health insurance; and subsidies for child care, housing and transportation.

Receipt of these forms of assistance is generally tied to family or household income. In this sense, the eligibility for these programs involves a means test. Families whose incomes fall below set levels are eligible on the basis of their financial need. The income eligibility levels for these programs are tied to the federal poverty thresholds that vary by family size and composition. Together, these programs make up what has come to be termed the "social safety net."

A social safety net comprises a set of programs, benefits and supports designed to ensure that people do not lack the basic necessities of life—shelter, food, physical safety, health and a minimum level of financial resources. A social safety net may go even further by ensuring that people have the means to change the circumstances that put them at risk. Job training, child care and/or child support services are examples of safety net programs that help people move toward economic self-sufficiency.[1]

The purpose of this special report is to examine the relationship between childhood poverty and economic assistance in Kansas and to discuss the implications for our children and families.

Among the findings:

- **Childhood poverty in Kansas has not been dramatically reduced during the most recent period of sustained economic growth and low unemployment.**
- **During the first three years of welfare reform (1996-1998), the percent of Kansas children receiving economic assistance dropped more than twice as much as the childhood poverty rate.**
- **In 1999, economic assistance participation rates rebounded, and in 2000 the participation rates nearly returned to the pre-welfare reform levels.**
- **The work-for-welfare component of welfare reform means that financial need alone does not guarantee that a family or individual will continue to receive economic assistance.**
- **Poverty definitions are outdated.**
- **Available data are inadequate for monitoring childhood poverty and evaluating the impact of policies and programs at the state and sub-state levels.**

The Safety Net and Welfare Reform

The passage by Congress of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 (PRWORA), commonly called the Welfare Reform Law, changed both the structure and philosophy of the safety net for families with children. PRWORA replaced the 60-year-old federal cash assistance program, Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), with a new cash assistance program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF).

The TANF program differs from AFDC in fundamental ways that affect all states. Chief among these is the end of AFDC as an entitlement program and the introduction of a federal lifetime benefit limit of five years. TANF also has a stronger emphasis on "work for welfare." Recipients are required to work after two years on assistance, with few exceptions. This new program also emphasizes immediate employment, with less consideration for job preparedness or advancement.

These changes have had a dramatic impact on welfare caseloads, which are described in more detail in the following sections. However, the most fundamental impact of the new law is on the expected relationship between financial need and welfare eligibility. While financial need still serves as the basis for initial receipt of assistance, need alone is not sufficient to guarantee continued receipt of assistance. The safety net now provides only "temporary assistance" and a "work opportunity." Beyond that, the provision of basic needs is viewed as a "personal responsibility."

These shifts in program philosophy and operation have created a potential risk for the well-being of families and children in Kansas and also serve to complicate the monitoring of their well-being. Poverty exposes children to what is arguably the greatest known risk factor. Welfare reform has concentrated on removing families from welfare without necessarily removing them from poverty. Because AFDC served as a primary gateway and coordination point for other assistance programs (particularly

Medicaid and Food Stamps), participation by eligible families in these programs also has been reduced, further jeopardizing the well-being of poor children and families.

Childhood poverty rates have been a major indicator for KIDS COUNT because of the important role poverty can play in influencing child and family well-being. However, reliable and current childhood poverty data are not readily available, particularly at the county level as necessary for state KIDS COUNT reports. For this reason, we have supplemented our childhood poverty measure with other indicators of economic well-being.

In Kansas and many other states, participation in AFDC has been used as a measure of financial need for families with children. To the extent that restrictive administrative procedures or stigma might influence participation, AFDC rates might be biased downward as an indicator of economic need. However, when eligibility was based on family income and the program was viewed as an entitlement for all eligible families, this approach could be expected to yield reasonable results. Under TANF, this relationship can no longer be assumed, and participation in economic assistance programs cannot serve as a proxy measure for financial need.

Defining and Measuring Poverty

The Percent of Children in Poverty is perhaps the most global and widely used indicator of child well-being. This is partly due to the fact that poverty is closely linked to a number of undesirable outcomes in areas such as health, education, emotional well-being and delinquency.[ii]

The U.S. Census Bureau uses a set of money income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to detect who is poor. If a family's total income is less than the family's threshold, then that family, and every individual in it, is considered poor. The poverty thresholds originally were developed in 1963-64 by Mollie Orshansky of the Social Security Administration. Orshansky based her poverty thresholds on the economy food plan — the cheapest of four food plans developed by the Department of Agriculture.

In 1965 — a year after the Johnson Administration initiated the War on Poverty — the Office of Economic Opportunity adopted Orshansky's poverty thresholds as a working or quasi-official definition of poverty. These poverty thresholds were applied to the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey, the only good source of nationally representative income data at the time, to calculate poverty levels for individuals, families and children.

In 1969, the U.S. Bureau of the Budget (the predecessor of the U.S. Office of Management and Budget) designated the Census Bureau poverty thresholds as the federal government's official statistical definition of poverty. The poverty thresholds are indexed by the Consumer Price Index to adjust for inflation.

Current definitions of poverty do not accurately reflect the economic well-being of families and children. The current measure has not been updated to reflect changes in the standard of living and in family consumption patterns since 1965. The poverty definition defines poverty thresholds based on food costs alone (versus food, clothing and shelter) and fails to adjust family resources for significant income sources (e.g., earned income tax credit, food stamps, Medicaid) and expenses (child care, medical expenses, taxes).

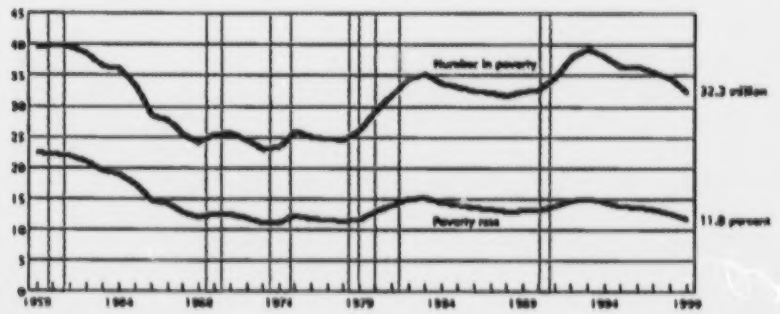
Debates have raged about how to measure poverty since Orshansky's measure was first introduced. In 1990, a Congressional committee requested a study of the official U.S. poverty measure by the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council to provide a basis for a possible revision of the poverty measure. The resulting report, published in 1995, proposed a new approach for developing an official poverty measure for the nation. The various changes suggested by the Panel to arrive at an acceptable, understandable, statistically defensible and practical measure[iii] impact poverty rates in different ways for different people. However, the net effect would appear to be an increase in overall and childhood poverty rates for the nation.[iv] The recommendations of the Panel have not yet been adopted for official use.

Trends in Childhood Poverty

Overall poverty rates in the United States fell to 11.8 percent in 1999, down from 12.7 percent in 1998. The 40-year trend in the U.S. poverty rate and the number of people in poverty is displayed in Figure 1 from the U.S. Census.[v] Despite the economic prosperity experienced in the past decade, the poverty rate has just begun to recover from its peak in 1993 and to approach the lows that were common in the 1970s. More than 32 million people remain in poverty in the United States.

Figure 1: Number of Poor and Poverty Rate: 1959 to 1999

Numbers in millions, rates in percent



Note: The data points represent the midpoints of the respective years. Gray lines indicate periods of recession. The latest recession began in July 1990 and ended in March 1991.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau. Current Population Survey, March 1960-2000.

Poverty rates vary considerably by demographic and geographic characteristics. The poverty rate for Blacks stood at 23.6 percent in 1999, about three times the poverty rate for White non-Hispanics (7.7 percent). Poverty rates for children under age 18 are generally 50 percent higher than the overall rate.

Poverty in Kansas

Reliable estimates of poverty at state and county levels are difficult to obtain, particularly for states with smaller populations and for population subgroups within these states. Data from the decennial census provide the best measures for state and county level analyses of childhood poverty; however, the data are only available every 10 years. Data from the 1990 Census reflect income and poverty from 1989. Poverty data from the 2000 Census are not expected to be available until the summer of 2002.

Data from the annual Current Population Survey (CPS) conducted by the Census Bureau in March are the most commonly cited source for current poverty data; however, because of the small samples involved,[vi] the Census is reluctant to even produce annual state level data. For example, the 1999-CPS yielded an overall poverty rate for Kansas of 12.2 percent, plus or minus 2.7 percent.[vii] Using a three-year average for 1997-99 yields an estimate of 10.5 percent, plus or minus 1.9 percent.

The problems with annual data are more pronounced when dealing with poverty for children only. The childhood poverty estimate for Kansas from the 1999 CPS is 18.5 percent, plus or minus 5.6 percent. Thus, for 1999 the CPS estimate is that childhood poverty ranges somewhere between 12.9 and 24.1 percent. This range is much too large to discern even major changes in childhood poverty from year to year.

In one attempt to address these problems, the Census recently has implemented the Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). This approach uses statistical modeling to arrive at annual poverty rates for states, counties and school districts. The major limitation for these data is that they are not available for all years and they are less current than the CPS direct estimates. Currently, childhood poverty SAIPEs are available for 1989, 1993, 1995, 1996 and 1997. 1997 estimates were not made available until November 2000.

In that the SAIPEs are estimates, there also is a degree of uncertainty associated with these numbers. Generally, SAIPE numbers are more reliable than one-year estimates from the CPS. For example, the 1997 estimate for childhood poverty in Kansas is 15.4 percent, plus or minus 1.8 percent. After extensive research, the Casey Foundation has decided to use the SAIPE rather than the CPS as its data source for childhood poverty estimates for the national KIDS COUNT book, which provides state-level analyses.

Given the limitations of the poverty data, what can we say about poverty in Kansas? First of all, poverty does exist in Kansas. The most recent reliable estimates place between 10 to 11 percent of the Kansas population, roughly 280,000 people, below the federal poverty level.[viii] (In 1999, the official poverty threshold for a family of four was $16,660.) Well over 100,000, and possibly as high as half of the people in poverty, are younger than 18 years of age. More than one out of every seven children in Kansas lives in poverty.

Overall and childhood poverty rates for Kansas are significantly lower than the national rates. A comparison of U.S. and Kansas childhood poverty rate estimates from the SAIPE is provided in Figure 2. For the time period shown in Figure 2, the U.S. childhood poverty rate peaked in 1993 and has been in steady decline since then.

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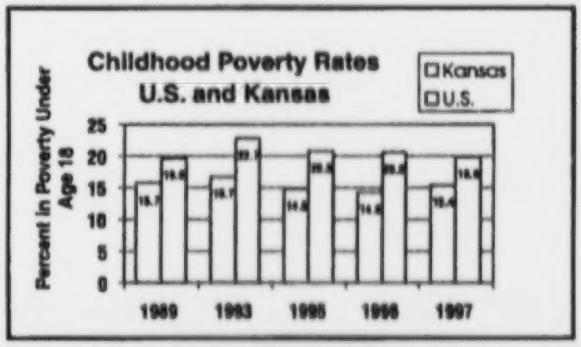
This trend is true for Kansas as well as the nation, but because of the uncertainty connected with SAIPE rates described above, none of the changes or trends in the Kansas data could be described as statistically significant. While the childhood poverty rate in Kansas is significantly lower than the overall rate for the United States, it should be noted that the U.S. child poverty rate is substantially higher–often two to three times higher–than that of most other major Western industrialized nations (NCCP, 2000). In addition, 18 states had overall poverty rates that were lower than Kansas in 1999.[ix]

Figure 2:
U.S. and Kansas Poverty Rates – Children Under Age 18.



Source: U.S. Census, Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates, available at http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/saipe/estimatetoc.html

Childhood poverty estimates from the CPS for 1999 suggest the Kansas rate has climbed back to the 1993 peak rate. Although these single-year estimates are inconclusive, it is clear that the problem of childhood poverty in Kansas continues to exist and has not been dramatically improved during the most recent period of sustained economic growth and low unemployment.

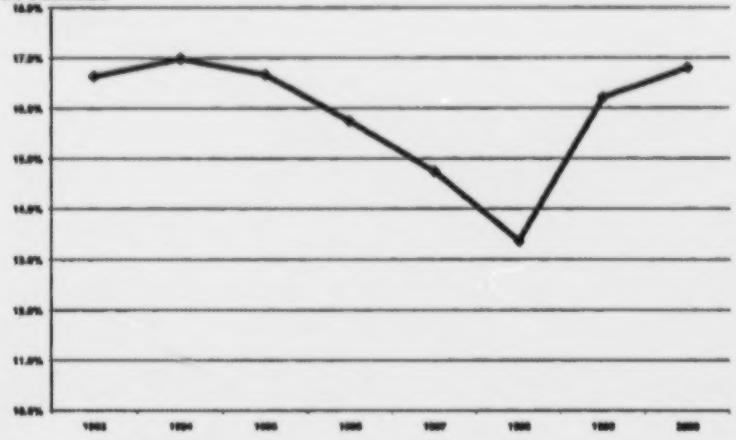
Welfare Reform and Economic Assistance in Kansas

The 1996 Welfare Reform Law, 1) eliminated the federal entitlement to cash assistance for low-income families, and 2) gave states unprecedented flexibility in designing and managing their cash assistance programs. Under the new law, family eligibility for cash assistance is limited to 60 months lifetime eligibility. The new law also requires recipients to work after two years on assistance, with few exceptions.[x] The impact of welfare reform nationwide and in Kansas has been to dramatically reduce the number of families and children receiving economic assistance.

Figure 3 shows the trend in the percentage of children receiving economic assistance in Kansas from 1993 to 1999. This chart shows dramatic declines in participation from 1993 to 1998. Between 1993 and 1995, approximately 120,000 children, about 17 percent of all children, received some form of economic assistance in Kansas.

In 1996, with the implementation of welfare reform, the number of children receiving assistance began to drop in each of the next three years, reaching a low of 97,603 (13.4 percent of all children) in 1998. Participation in the state's cash assistance program, Temporary Assistance to Families (TAF), alone dropped 62 percent during this period while the childhood poverty rate declined only 29 percent (NCCP, 2000).

Figure 3: Percent Children Receiving Economic Assistance in Kansas



Economic assistance participation rates rebounded in 1999 and in 2000 nearly returned to the pre-TAF levels. A number of possible explanations exist for this increase.

Families leaving TAF frequently return. A survey conducted by Kansas SRS indicated that 35 percent of the families leaving welfare returned to the TAF program within a year.[xi] While some of the recent increase in economic assistance participation may be due to families returning to TAF, this will not be an option once a family has exhausted its 60 months lifetime eligibility.

Families who choose to leave or are forced to leave TAF can remain eligible for other economic assistance programs, particularly Food Stamps and Medicaid. Numerous state studies have documented that a combination of eligibility confusion (on the part of potential recipients as well as economic assistance and child welfare workers), restrictive administrative practices and complicated or burdensome application processes have contributed to a decline in participation in these other assistance programs.[xii] As this has been brought to the attention of the public, child advocates and agency administrators, there have been notable attempts to enhance participation in these programs. It is possible that these efforts are having an impact in Kansas.

Finally, it is possible that these increases in participation in economic assistance programs reflect a real increase in need. Leaving welfare does not mean leaving poverty. Thirty percent of welfare leavers in Kansas reported that their financial condition was worse one year after leaving. As noted above, the CPS poverty estimates show a dramatic if not statistically significant increase in childhood poverty, from 12.9 percent in 1998 to 18.5 percent in 1999.

What is clear, and is actually an intended consequence of welfare reform, is that the receipt of economic assistance is no longer directly tied to family needs. Work is designed to replace welfare even if it cannot replace poverty. The number of children living in poor families totally dependent on welfare has actually fallen over the past 20 years. On the other hand, the number of children in working poor families has grown by nearly a third over the past decade.[xiii]

Recommendations

Definitions of poverty should be refined.

Recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council, Panel on Poverty and Family Assistance should be adopted to enhance the validity of the family poverty measure.

The Panel also recommended additional research related to several elements in the proposed poverty measure. The Bureau of Census and several federally funded research centers have been vigorously pursuing this research agenda since the Panel's report was published in 1995. It is time to make decisions and to move ahead with implementation of a new measure of poverty. A new realistic poverty measure that includes resources provided through government programs and demands placed on those resources by the expectation of work will provide more meaningful data on the well-being of children and families. As Mollie Orshansky has said: "If it is not possible to state unequivocally 'how much is enough,' it should be possible to assert with confidence how much, on an average, is too little."[xiv]

Kansas should explore ways to improve its ability to track childhood poverty.

Current poverty data suffer from: (1) lack of timeliness in reporting; (2) lack of reliable annual data for tracking trends and evaluating programs and policies; and (3) lack of reliable estimates for comparisons across sub-state geographical areas (e.g., counties, cities, school districts).

The U.S. Census Bureau recognizes these problems and has been working on a response since 1996 when it began testing a new census data collection process. The American Community Survey (ACS) is slotted to replace the decennial census long form by collecting essentially the same information throughout the decade rather than once every 10 years. With updated information, researchers will be able to track changes over time and measure relative differences among population groups and areas.[xv]

While the ACS changes will be a significant improvement over the decennial census for obtaining poverty estimates, it will still have major shortcomings, particularly for a state like Kansas with a relatively small population and many local jurisdictions (105 counties). If approved by Congress, the Census plans to implement the ACS in 2003. Small areas with populations less than 20,000 would require five years to collect a sufficient sample to provide reliable data. Of the 105 counties in Kansas, 79 have populations of less than 20,000 and would therefore not have poverty data from the ACS until 2008.

Such a large number of sparsely populated, rural counties makes gathering adequate data especially difficult. Clearly, additional efforts are required if states such as Kansas are to obtain reliable annual poverty data that can be used to identify needs and

evaluate progress in improving the economic well-being of families and children in Kansas. The state should begin to explore how modeling techniques such as those used in the SAIPE could be adopted using state income tax and economic assistance data to arrive at annual small-area poverty estimates for Kansas.

Increase the minimum wage to help parents earn enough to keep their children out of poverty.

The federal minimum wage of $5.15 an hour applies to almost all workers. The inflation-adjusted value of the minimum wage is 19 percent lower today than it was in 1979. As welfare reform forces more poor families to rely on their earnings from low-paying jobs, a minimum-wage increase is likely to have a greater impact on reducing poverty.

Expand the Earned Income Tax Credit in Kansas.

Earned income tax credits (EITC) provide tax reductions and wage supplements for low- and moderate-income working families. The federal tax system has included an EITC since 1975, with major expansions in 1986, 1990 and 1993. Nearly 20 million families and individuals filing federal income tax returns — roughly one tax return in six — claim the federal EITC.

Kansas is one of 15 states that offer state EITCs based on the federal credit. Thirteen states use federal eligibility rules and express the state credit as a specified percentage of the federal credit that varies from 5 percent to 50 percent. Kansas currently provides a credit of 10 percent.

State EITCs also play a role in shaping state tax systems. A number of states are responding to strong fiscal conditions by enacting tax cuts. Enacting a state EITC is a way to help reduce the substantial burden of state and local taxes on the poor and to ensure that low- and moderate-income families share in the benefits of those tax cuts.[vii]

Provide access to affordable, quality child care; health insurance; food stamps; and transportation to and from work.

A state Senate committee looking into children's issues has noted that less than 2 percent of monies available to businesses for their expenses in either providing facilities for day-care services, purchasing day-care services for the children of their employees or helping locate day-care services for employees had been claimed. These types of programs are vital to working poor families if welfare-to-work transitions are to be successful and if the well-being of children in these families is to be preserved during the transition.

New program philosophies and eligibility criteria for federal cash assistance programs have created barriers to participation in other need-based programs such as Food Stamps and Medicaid while increasing the demand for work-related supportive services such as child care and transportation. To overcome these barriers, states will need to be aggressive in mounting outreach and transition programs and become innovative in the development of new supports for working poor families. The recent upturn in participation in economic assistance programs in Kansas is encouraging and suggests that some barriers are being overcome; however, more must be done.

CONCLUSION:

Eliminating Childhood Poverty Should Be Our Goal

Providing work opportunities and emphasizing personal responsibility is fine, but we cannot lose sight of the children in these families who cannot work and should not be forced to assume adult responsibilities. Nor can we ignore the high long-term costs associated with children who grow up in poverty. Poverty has been shown to negatively affect the healthy growth and development of children.[viii] In addition to these direct effects on children growing up in poverty, the lost opportunities and potentials of their lives and the high costs of remedial programs required to repair the damage done affect us all.[viii]

Fewer children in poverty will mean more children entering school ready to learn and more successful schools, better child health and less strain on hospitals and public health systems, less stress on the juvenile justice system, less child hunger and malnutrition, and other important advances.[ix]

Economic assistance programs, particularly Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TAF in Kansas), are no longer designed to provide a safety net for all families demonstrating need. Work is to replace welfare. Steps must then be taken to assure that work provides sufficient income to meet a family's basic needs and to supplement those needs when they are not met by work alone.

[i] Burt, M.R., Pindus, N. & Capizzano, J. (2000). The social safety net at the beginning of federal welfare reform: Organization of and access to social services for low-income families. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. *Assessing the New Federalism* Occasional Paper No. 34.

[ii] Annie E. Casey Foundation (2000). Kids Count Data Book 2000. Baltimore, MD.

[iii] Citro, C.F. & Michael, R.T. editors (1995). Measuring poverty: A new approach. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press, p.3.

[iv] Citro, C.F. & Michael, R.T., op.cit. p.265.

[v] Dalaker, J. and Proctor, B. (September, 2000). *Poverty in the United States 1999*, U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic and Statistics Administration, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C.

[vi] The Kansas sample for the CPS typically involves less than 700 people, and only a subset of these would be children.

[vii] The Census calculates 90 percent confidence intervals, meaning one can be 90 percent confident that the true value for the poverty estimate lies between the lower and upper boundary of the 90 percent confidence interval.

[viii] Based on three-year CPS average 1997-99. Source: see endnote 6.

[ix] Dalaker & Proctor, op.cit.

[x] Welfare reform and its impact on families with children in Kansas is examined in greater detail in a report from Kansas Action for Children titled *Struggle for Self-Sufficiency: Impact of Welfare Reform on Families with Children in Kansas*, August 2000.

[xi] *A Survey of Kansas Households Leaving the Temporary Assistance for Families Program.*(. (March 2000) Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services.

[xii] For a further discussion of these issues in Kansas see the KAC report cited in endnote x. Additional information is available from the Urban Institute's *Assessing the New Federalism* project with numerous reports available from their website http://newfederalism.urban.org/index.html.

[xiii] The Annie E. Casey Foundation, *2000 Kids Count Data Book*, pp.31-32.

[xiv] Orshansky, M. (1965). Counting the poor: Another look at the poverty profile. *Social Security Bulletin* 28(1) (January), pp. 3-29.

[xv] Tauber, C.M. (2000). The American Community Survey. *Population Today*, November/December 2000, Washington, D.C.: The Population Reference Bureau.

[xvi] Johnson, N. (2000). A hand up: How state earned income tax credits help working families escape poverty in 2000. Washington, D.C.: Center on Budget and Policy Priorities.

[xvii] Aber, J.L.; Bennett, N.G.; Conley, D.C.; & Li, J. (1997). The effects of poverty on child health and development. Annual Review of Public Health, 18; Aber, J. L.; Jones, S.; & Cohen, J. (1999) The impact of poverty on the mental health and development of very young children, in C.H. Zeanah, Jr. (Ed.) *Handbook of infant mental health, 2nd ed.* New York, NY: Guilford Press; and Brooks-Gunn, J. & Duncan, G.J. (1997). The effects of poverty on children. *The Future of Children*, 7(2), pp. 55-71.

[xviii] Sherman, A. (1995). *Wasting America's Future*. Washington, D.C. Children's Defense Fund.

[xix] National Center for Children in Poverty (2000). *Child Poverty in Kansas*, Columbia University.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

Purpose of Kids Count. The *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* is intended to draw attention to the status of children in Kansas. The goal of *KANSAS KIDS COUNT* is to compile data on indicators of the well-being of the state's children and to use these data to strengthen strategic action on behalf of children. The book provides descriptive information with regard to five areas of child and family functioning: (1) economic conditions, (2) physical health and safety, (3) child care and education, (4) emotional functioning, and (5) social behavior and social control. Statewide and county data are provided on 22 different indicators of child well-being. The book is produced annually with current and retrospective data. By providing these data, the book is expected to motivate and encourage advocacy for children, to inform and therefore to enhance planning, and to assist in evaluating progress toward improving the lives of our children.

Structure of the Book. Around each book we have developed a theme to draw the readers' attention to current issues, research, and policy that impact children in Kansas (see pp. 5-11). A summary of the findings of the book is provided in the Overview (p.4). The reader who is interested in a particular area of child well-being (e.g., physical health and safety or child abuse and neglect) will find data organized by indicators in the first part of the book (pp. 14-55). If you are interested in a specific geographic area, you will find the data and graphic displays for each county in alphabetical order on pages 58-162. A profile for the entire state on all indicators can be found on page 57.

Selection of Indicators. The selection of data for the annual Data Book is an ongoing process. Prior to production of the first book in 1993, the project engaged in an extensive process for selecting indicators, which included reviewing *KIDS COUNT* books and related publications from other states, consultation with national KIDS COUNT staff and consultants, and guidance from two committees of Kansas advisors composed of academics, agency administrators, advocates, funders, judges and members of the state legislature.

It is important to the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT* project that as many indicators as possible reflect "outcomes" for children. We prefer to measure what end result has been achieved for children rather than what activity has occurred or what services children have received. For example, the percent of children in poverty is a preferred measure as an "outcome" for children rather than the percent who receive economic assistance from state agencies, which at times may not reflect the actual need for assistance resulting from living in poverty conditions.

Many times, preferred indicators cannot be constructed because data are unavailable or of poor quality. Outcome information is more difficult for agencies to collect, so we are sometimes forced to use the more readily available service provision information. Some data may not be collected annually or may only be available as a statewide measure and not available for individual counties. In all cases, we have attempted to obtain the best and most complete data available. When using service data, we have attempted to limit our selection of indicators to service programs for which there is some evidence of the effectiveness of the intervention. We have, on several occasions, decided not to use data because of questions regarding the quality of the data. We see as part of the mission of KIDS COUNT the need to draw attention to unavailable and poor-quality data in order to motivate and assist in the improvement of data collection for monitoring the well-being of children in Kansas.

Data Sources. The KIDS COUNT project does not have sufficient resources to engage in primary data collection. Data for the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* are compiled by researchers at the University of Kansas, who obtain the data from other agencies and data archives. A full description of these sources is provided on pages 163 and 164. The individuals working in collaborating agencies that have helped to make this effort possible are acknowledged on page 2 of the *Data Book*.

Calculating Indicator Rates. All indicators are expressed as rates. A rate is the number of times some event occurs divided by the number of possible times it could have occurred. This ratio is typically multiplied by some factor of 10 to produce whole numbers rather than a decimal figure. The most common form of a rate is a percentage. For example, the childhood poverty rate is the number of children whose families' income falls below the poverty level, divided by the total number of children in the population, times 100. More simply stated, it is the percent of children in poverty or the number of children in poverty per 100 children in the population.

For many indicators, the incidence of the event of interest occurs much less frequently and a typical rate might be some fraction of a percent. Typically in these cases the rate may be expressed as the number per 1,000 (e.g. infant mortality rate) or even per 100,000 (e.g., childhood death rate). A detailed description of the calculation of each indicator is provided in the Data Notes and Sources section of this book on pages 163 and 164.

Rates are not reported for each indicator in each year for some counties. These missing data result from several sources. Sometimes data were simply not available for certain counties. On several occasions, available data were judged to be of poor quality and were not reported.

For some indicators a county rate might not be calculated because it was judged to not be "meaningful". The last situation arises primarily in counties with small populations and with indicators that have low incidence rates in the general population.

Any county that experiences at least one occurrence of an indicator event (e.g., an infant death) has a rate calculated. To judge whether a zero occurrence was meaningful, we first calculated the expected frequency of the event in a given county based on the rate for the state as a whole. If the expected frequency is less than one, we do not report the rate and thus list only a "•". In this case, we are saying that there are simply too few occurrences of the event (e.g., births) due to small population numbers to have any expectation of the event in a single year.

If the expected frequency is less than one and the county experiences one or more occurrences of the event, we calculate and report a rate. In this case, we are saying that the event would be unlikely to occur in this county due to the small numbers of people and the fact that it did occur is noteworthy. Nevertheless, many of these rates are based on very low occurrences of the underlying event and, as a result, may experience dramatic swings from year to year.

Interpreting the Data. This report provides several ways to judge the indicator score for a particular county. Decile scores rank the counties into 10 equal groups, thereby providing a comparison of a county relative to all other counties in the state. For all indicators, low decile scores indicate that the county does well compared to others while high decile scores indicate that the county does relatively poorly. A decile score of "1" indicates that the county is in the top 10 percent while a decile score of "10" indicates that the county is in the bottom 10 percent.

A county's indicator score can also be compared with the state average or mean score. In this way, one can see if the county score is better or worse than the average for the state as a whole.

Given the wide diversity in demographics across the 105 Kansas counties, it may also be helpful to compare your county with other specific counties that you judge to be similar with respect to important variables such as total population, income or geographic area.

In addition, it is important to compare current county indicator scores with past performance to determine whether the situation is improving or getting worse for a specific indicator. *The Data Book* provides a way to judge changes over time by producing "current" and "base" rates on each indicator where sufficient data are available. Current-year data are provided for the most recent available year. When available data permit, the base-year rate will be the average rate for the five years preceding the current year. Percent change over time is presented for all indicators with base-year and current-year data. On the county pages, a bar graph is presented where these percent change scores have been converted to indicate "better" or "worse" trends over time.

Cautions. In producing the *KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book*, we are continuously faced with decisions about the quality of the data we are able to obtain and how best to present the data to provide an accurate and useful picture of the status of children in our communities. Our experience has convinced us that annual county-level data are the most relevant to community interests and decision-making processes in Kansas. However, Kansas has a relatively small population and many more counties than most states. This makes it difficult to construct reliable rates at the county level for many of our indicators and may make it impossible to accurately discern trends in the annual data. To address these issues, it is always important to recognize when a rate is based on very few incidents. For example, a childhood death rate may be calculated based on only two deaths in a year. If in the baseline period the county experienced on average only one death every two years, this will show up as a 400-percent increase. While the math behind this calculation is accurate, this increase is not reliable and should not be the focus and would be judged to be "statistically insignificant." However, a child's death is not an "insignificant" number. We still feel that it is important to draw attention to that death to stimulate local interest and discussion. What was the cause of these two deaths and could they have been avoided? In cases like this, our recommendation is to focus on the number of incidents involved rather than the rates.

Because of the time required for our data sources to collect the indicator data and the time required to produce the book, the 2000 book contains data dating back to 1999 or even 1998. The reader is cautioned to check each indicator to determine the exact time period being reported. This information can be found in the tables and in the Data Notes and Sources section of this book. It is possible that more recent data on a particular indicator are now available and can be obtained from the sources listed in the book.

As always, we invite your feedback about the *2000 KANSAS KIDS COUNT Data Book* and input regarding future productions of the book.

BIRTHS TO SINGLE TEENS

Births to single teens are used as a proxy measure for economic well-being because of the significant economic implications for teen women who become mothers. The data show the number of live births to unmarried women under the age of 20 for the state and each county. Having a child during adolescence is associated with a number of negative, short- and long-term consequences. Educational success is significantly restrained by teen pregnancy, both for the teen and her child. For example, less than one-third of teens who begin families before age 18 complete high school. The limited educational attainment of teen moms can, in turn, reduce their future employment prospects and earnings potential.[1] Children of teen parents have lower birth weights, are more likely to perform poorly in school and are at greater risk of abuse and neglect.[2]

There is good news about teen birth rates. Nationally, they are at the lowest level since 1987. After years of rising rates, teen births began to decline in 1991. The teen birth rates fell an additional 3 percent in 1999 to 49.6 births per 1,000 teen women 15-19 years old. This represents a 20 percent decline since 1991. Declines were particularly dramatic among younger teens, with the birth rate for 15 to 17 year olds falling 6 percent for 1999 to a record low of 28.7 per 1,000.[3]

While teen birth rates have been declining in the United States, they still are high compared with other industrialized countries. Twice as many teens in the United States become pregnant as in England, Wales and Canada, and U.S. rates are nine times higher than the Netherlands and Japan.[4] Teen births are estimated to cost the United States $7 billion annually.[5]

While the increases have been small, Kansas has not followed the general national trend of steadily declining teen births. Instead the percent of teen births has been increasing, though only slightly. In 1999, the percent of births to single teens increased by less than 1 percent (0.9 percent) from 9.6 percent for the base years period (1994-1998) to 9.7 percent. Six Kansas counties had no births to single teens (Comanche, Decatur, Elk, Gove, Jewell and Sheridan). Counties with more than 20 percent of all births to single teens include Allen and Chautauqua. While Wyandotte County showed a slight decrease in births to single teens (-2 percent change), it still had 18.1 percent of all births to single teens. In sum, Kansas communities should pay close attention to births among single teens and commit themselves to reducing these numbers. Teen pregnancy prevention requires a full community approach; it is a combined responsibility of parents, the faith community, schools and government.

[1] Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. (2000). America's children: Key national indicators of well-being, 2000. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 20, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childstats.gov/ac2000

[2] National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. (2000). Facts and stats: General facts and stats. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 26, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.teenpregnancy.org/genlfact.htm

[3] Curtin, S. C., & Martin, J. A. (March 28, 2000). Births: Preliminary data for 1999. National Vital Statistics Reports, 48 (14). Retrieved September 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvs48_14.pdf

[4] Alan Guttmacher Institute. (Revised September 1999). Facts in brief: Teen sex and pregnancy. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 2000 from the World Wide Web: www.agi-usa.org/pubs/fb_teen_sex.html

[5] National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy. (2000, May). Fact sheet: Why the education community cares about preventing teen pregnancy: Notes from the field. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 26, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.teenpregnancy.org/educatio.htm

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	24	13.8	10	42	22.5	10	63
ANDERSON	8	8.5	5	8	7.7	4	-9
ATCHISON	24	11.4	9	25	13.0	9	14
BARBER	4	8.2	5	5	9.3	6	13
BARTON	40	10.7	8	38	9.9	7	-7
BOURBON	22	11.7	9	28	14.7	10	26
BROWN	17	12.4	9	13	10.4	7	-16
BUTLER	67	9.0	6	69	9.1	5	1
CHASE	4	8.6	5	4	9.5	6	11
CHAUTAUQUA	4	13.4	10	9	27.3	10	103
CHEROKEE	31	10.4	8	28	9.7	6	-7
CHEYENNE	2	6.0	2	1	4.5	2	-24
CLARK	1	5.8	2	1	3.3	1	-42
CLAY	9	9.2	6	9	9.8	6	6
CLOUD	10	9.9	7	6	5.7	3	-43
COFFEY	8	8.1	5	8	8.1	5	0
COMANCHE	1	4.6	1	0	.0	1	-100
COWLEY	53	11.8	9	68	13.4	9	14
CRAWFORD	49	9.8	7	63	11.9	8	21
DECATUR	2	5.0	1	0	.0	1	-100
DICKINSON	25	11.5	9	21	9.3	6	-19
DONIPHAN	10	10.4	8	13	13.7	9	32
DOUGLAS	72	6.6	3	82	6.8	4	3
EDWARDS	3	6.8	3	2	5.4	3	-21
ELK	3	9.4	7	0	.0	1	-100
ELLIS	24	7.4	4	27	7.6	4	2
ELLSWORTH	4	6.9	4	3	4.5	2	-36
FINNEY	119	13.7	10	118	13.3	9	-3
FORD	65	10.7	8	83	12.4	8	16
FRANKLIN	34	10.3	7	33	8.9	5	-14
GEARY	60	8.3	5	44	7.5	4	-11
GOVE	1	2.2	1	0	.0	1	-100
GRAHAM	2	8.6	6	2	7.4	4	-14

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVERAGE NUMBER TEEN BIRTHS	PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF TEEN BIRTHS	PERCENT OF TEEN BIRTHS	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	23	15.3	10	18	11.3	7	-26
GRAY	5	5.6	2	4	4.7	2	-15
GREELEY	2	8.4	5	2	11.8	8	40
GREENWOOD	9	11.7	9	11	14.1	10	21
HAMILTON	3	11.3	8	3	6.4	3	-43
HARPER	7	10.3	7	6	8.6	5	-17
HARVEY	33	8.3	5	54	11.8	8	42
HASKELL	5	6.2	3	8	9.8	6	57
HODGEMAN	1	7.3	4	4	14.8	10	103
JACKSON	15	9.6	7	7	4.7	2	-51
JEFFERSON	17	8.4	5	17	7.4	4	-11
JEWELL	2	5.1	2	0	.0	1	-100
JOHNSON	201	3.3	1	224	3.4	1	3
KEARNY	6	8.8	6	8	8.6	5	-2
KINGMAN	8	9.0	6	8	8.2	5	-8
KIOWA	3	6.9	3	2	5.1	2	-25
LABETTE	37	13.0	9	40	14.1	9	8
LANE	1	3.3	1	1	5.0	2	54
LEAVENWORTH	73	8.5	5	87	10.0	7	18
LINCOLN	1	4.2	1	2	5.6	3	33
LINN	12	11.9	9	13	11.7	8	-1
LOGAN	3	9.4	7	3	6.7	4	-29
LYON	49	10.0	7	57	10.7	7	8
MARION	9	6.2	3	9	6.1	3	-1
MARSHALL	8	7.4	4	11	9.9	7	34
MCPHERSON	24	7.2	4	26	7.8	5	9
MEADE	5	6.9	4	3	4.5	2	-35
MIAMI	25	7.6	4	35	9.1	6	19
MITCHELL	5	7.4	4	3	4.8	2	-34
MONTGOMERY	64	14.5	10	62	13.4	9	-8
MORRIS	5	6.2	2	7	11.9	8	92
MORTON	4	7.4	4	9	15.8	10	115
NEMAHA	7	4.7	1	6	3.9	2	-16
NEOSHO	21	10.4	7	19	11.1	7	7
NESS	2	5.3	2	1	3.4	1	-36
NORTON	5	9.4	7	3	7.0	4	-26
OSAGE	18	9.3	6	18	9.4	6	2
OSBORNE	4	8.6	5	2	4.7	2	-46
OTTAWA	4	6.1	2	9	12.7	9	109
PAWNEE	11	14.7	10	11	13.3	9	-10
PHILLIPS	3	4.4	1	6	10.2	7	130
POTTAWATOMIE	12	4.6	1	16	6.3	3	37
PRATT	9	7.7	4	7	6.7	4	-13
RAWLINS	2	6.5	3	1	5.3	3	-19
RENO	95	11.8	9	93	11.3	8	-4
REPUBLIC	4	8.0	5	3	6.8	4	-14
RICE	11	9.1	6	11	9.5	6	4
RILEY	40	4.1	1	37	3.9	2	-5
ROOKS	5	7.4	4	5	7.8	5	6
RUSH	2	5.1	2	2	5.4	3	6
RUSSELL	5	6.4	3	6	9.7	6	52
SALINE	83	11.0	8	107	15.2	10	38
SCOTT	6	9.1	6	5	6.5	3	-29
SEDGWICK	780	10.9	8	817	10.8	7	0
SEWARD	58	12.7	9	69	13.2	9	5
SHAWNEE	302	12.9	9	259	11.0	7	-15
SHERIDAN	1	5.3	2	0	.0	1	-100
SHERMAN	12	14.4	10	7	7.1	4	-51
SMITH	2	5.3	2	2	8.3	5	56
STAFFORD	8	14.2	10	5	7.8	5	-45
STANTON	4	9.2	6	7	17.9	10	96
STEVENS	10	11.3	8	13	14.6	10	30
SUMNER	35	10.6	8	43	13.2	9	25
THOMAS	11	10.0	7	11	11.6	8	16
TREGO	3	10.5	8	3	9.7	6	-8
WABAUNSEE	5	6.5	3	11	12.5	8	93
WALLACE	2	6.8	3	1	5.3	3	-22
WASHINGTON	4	5.9	2	2	2.7	1	-54
WICHITA	3	6.6	3	6	14.0	9	111
WILSON	17	14.3	10	13	10.0	7	-30
WOODSON	3	9.3	6	4	11.4	8	22
WYANDOTTE	499	18.5	10	507	18.1	10	-2
KANSAS	**3,570**	**9.6**		**3,745**	**9.7**		**0.9**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Nearly one in five U.S. children, or more than 13 million children, live in poverty.[1] In 1997, the official federal poverty line was $12,802 for a family of three and $16,400 for a family of four.[2] The U.S. child poverty rate is substantially higher (i.e., two to three times) than most other major Western industrialized nations.[3] Moreover, the official poverty measure, which was originally developed in the early 1960s, has been seriously criticized for its limitations in accurately gauging present-day poverty. The 1995 panel of the National Academy of Sciences made several criticisms of the federal government's current method of poverty measurement. The official poverty measure:

- Ignores out-of-pocket medical expenses, differences in health insurance coverage and medical care needs
- Ignores the increased importance and commonality of child-care expenses among today's families
- Disregards regional variation in cost of living, especially cost of housing
- Requires updating to account for changes in consumption patterns of American households (e.g., food accounted for about 1/3 of a 1950's family income and is now estimated at 1/7 of a typical family income).

The data reported in this year's book are poverty estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau's Small Area and Income Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). They are 1997 estimates, the most recent year for which these data are available. Kansas had a child poverty rate of 15.4 percent. Twenty-three counties suffered a poverty rate of 20 percent or higher, and only five counties had a rate at or below 10 percent. The highest child poverty rates were observed in Bourbon, Chautauqua, Cherokee and Wyandotte counties, where one in four children lives in a family with an income below the federal poverty line.

Child poverty could be alleviated by various strategies, including the following:

- Help parents earn enough to keep their children out of poverty
- Make sure the Earned Income Tax Credit reaches low-income working families
- Make the child tax credit and the dependent care tax credit refundable
- Expand the supply of affordable housing
- Improve child support collections and let families keep money collected for children
- Establish paid family leave
- Provide work supports such as transportation, child care and health coverage to provide families with the tools they need to stay at work
- Expand cost-effective prevention programs (e.g., the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) food program; Healthy Start and Head Start programs)[4, 5]

[1] National Center for Children in Poverty. (2000, July). *Child poverty fact sheet: Child poverty in the United States.* New York, NY: Author. Retrieved February 2001 on the World Wide Web: http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/ycpf.html

[2] Dalaker, H. & Naifeh, M. (1998, September). *Poverty in the United States: 1997.* Washington, DC: U.S. Bureau of the Census, Current Population Reports, Series P60-201. Retrieved January 2001 on the World Wide Web: www.census.gov

[3] National Center for Children in Poverty. (2000, July). *Child poverty fact sheet: Child poverty in the United States.* New York, NY: Author. Retrieved February 2001 on the World Wide Web: http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/ycpf.html

[4] Children's Defense Fund. (2000). *The state of America's children: Yearbook 2000.* Washington, DC: Author.

[5] National Center for Children in Poverty. (2000, July). *Child poverty fact sheet: Child poverty in the United States.* New York, NY: Author. Retrieved February 2001 on the World Wide Web: http://cpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/ycpf.html

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	MEDIAN INCOME	DECILE RANK
ALLEN	848	21	30,171	9
ANDERSON	414	19	30,776	8
ATCHISON	945	21	32,515	9
BARBER	248	17	30,317	6
BARTON	1,384	18	33,079	7
BOURBON	1,019	26	28,362	10
BROWN	678	22	30,260	9
BUTLER	1,978	11	44,998	1
CHASE	182	24	29,129	10
CHAUTAUQUA	290	28	24,358	10
CHEROKEE	1,523	25	27,729	10
CHEYENNE	117	15	29,484	4
CLARK	97	16	33,987	5
CLAY	402	17	33,910	6
CLOUD	438	19	29,851	8
COFFEY	372	15	34,411	4
COMANCHE	75	16	27,139	4
COWLEY	1,811	19	33,933	7
CRAWFORD	1,975	23	28,442	10
DECATUR	164	19	28,427	8
DICKINSON	688	13	33,975	3
DONIPHAN	401	20	32,077	9
DOUGLAS	2,843	14	37,248	4
EDWARDS	141	17	31,082	6
ELK	241	31	23,604	10
ELLIS	929	14	33,279	3
ELLSWORTH	199	14	31,314	3
FINNEY	1,975	15	36,823	4
FORD	1,565	18	34,434	7
FRANKLIN	1,190	17	34,879	5
GEARY	1,865	26	28,857	10
GOVE	102	13	30,725	2
GRAHAM	156	19	29,829	8

COUNTY	NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	PERCENT OF CHILDREN IN POVERTY	MEDIAN INCOME	DECILE RANK
GRANT	354	13	43,557	2
GRAY	206	11	39,728	1
GREELEY	51	10	34,125	1
GREENWOOD	458	23	27,401	10
HAMILTON	119	20	33,413	8
HARPER	295	19	30,760	8
HARVEY	1,153	13	39,525	3
HASKELL	176	13	42,696	3
HODGEMAN	71	12	34,381	1
JACKSON	572	17	35,498	5
JEFFERSON	560	11	41,130	1
JEWELL	163	18	28,555	7
JOHNSON	6,209	5	59,870	1
KEARNY	230	17	38,950	5
KINGMAN	349	15	35,312	4
KIOWA	119	13	32,148	3
LABETTE	1,356	22	29,369	9
LANE	91	15	31,953	4
LEAVENWORTH	2,343	12	44,056	2
LINCOLN	129	16	28,563	5
LINN	493	20	29,802	9
LOGAN	139	18	32,148	6
LYON	1,653	18	33,688	7
MARION	454	14	32,643	4
MARSHALL	571	20	32,432	8
MCPHERSON	597	8	40,361	1
MEADE	134	11	34,411	1
MIAMI	896	12	40,625	2
MITCHELL	226	13	33,611	2
MONTGOMERY	2,216	23	29,277	10
MORRIS	244	16	31,810	4
MORTON	168	16	38,752	5
NEMAHA	365	12	34,266	2
NEOSHO	831	19	30,890	8
NESS	117	12	33,244	2
NORTON	238	19	31,013	7
OSAGE	665	14	35,499	3
OSBORNE	206	18	27,601	7
OTTAWA	199	13	37,087	2
PAWNEE	317	18	33,528	7
PHILLIPS	253	17	32,418	6
POTTAWATOMIE	697	13	38,587	2
PRATT	419	17	34,857	5
RAWLINS	137	17	29,655	6
RENO	2,946	19	35,475	7
REPUBLIC	262	18	28,994	7
RICE	466	17	32,195	6
RILEY	1,888	13	33,744	3
ROOKS	278	18	29,792	7
RUSH	141	19	28,395	8
RUSSELL	340	20	28,214	9
SALINE	2,196	16	36,682	5
SCOTT	160	10	38,781	1
SEDGWICK	21,223	17	40,875	6
SEWARD	1,326	20	35,710	9
SHAWNEE	7,312	17	40,122	5
SHERIDAN	110	14	34,183	4
SHERMAN	380	22	30,801	9
SMITH	173	17	28,257	6
STAFFORD	277	20	29,419	9
STANTON	86	12	39,024	2
STEVENS	256	15	40,593	4
SUMNER	1,021	13	38,987	2
THOMAS	341	15	34,654	4
TREGO	112	13	28,421	3
WABAUNSEE	178	10	36,802	1
WALLACE	91	17	28,682	6
WASHINGTON	274	17	28,557	5
WICHITA	144	18	35,341	6
WILSON	598	22	28,111	9
WOODSON	221	23	26,400	10
WYANDOTTE	12,028	28	30,056	10
KANSAS	**109,324**	**15.4**	**36,488**	

Data are from U.S. Census Bureau 1997 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). Decile ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive results and "10" indicates the most negative results.

CHILDREN APPROVED FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS

More than 96,000 schools serve free or reduced-cost meals to more than 27 million children in the United States. A review of the number of children approved for free school meals is one approach to understanding economic need in Kansas.

The household income of children determines whether they receive full- or reduced-cost meals, or free meals. Free meals are available for children from families with incomes up to 130 percent of the poverty line. For children from families with incomes between 130 percent and 185 percent of the poverty line, reduced-priced meals are available, for which children can be charged no more than 40 cents. For a family of four, these poverty guidelines translate to a maximum annual income of $31,543 for reduced-price meals and $22,165 for free meals.[1]

Statewide, 32.2 percent of Kansas schoolchildren used the free meals program during the 1999/2000 school year. Comparatively, a recent report showed that the proportion of students eligible to receive a free lunch ranged from a low of 11.2 percent in New Hampshire to a high of 63.4 percent in Mississippi.[2] School-based child nutrition programs, which can include breakfast, lunch and after-school snacks, are aimed at improving children's diet as well as their overall health and well-being. Research has demonstrated important connections between eating nutritious meals and the ability of children to be alert, attentive and focused for learning in school.

This year's data show that Kansas experienced a 1 percent increase in the percent of students approved for free school meals, when compared with the previous five-year period. Seven counties experienced declines of 10 percent or more in the percent of students approved for free school meals, while nine counties experienced increases of 10 percent or more. The largest declines were in Trego (-19 percent) and Ottawa (-16 percent). The most significant increases were in Gove (22 percent) and Decatur (20 percent). The percent of students approved for free school meals ranged from a low of 8 percent in Johnson County to a high of 59 percent in Wyandotte County, which was followed closely by Geary (56 percent), Elk (55 percent) and Ford (54 percent).

	BASE YEARS - 1994-99			CURRENT YEAR - 2000			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	AVERAGE PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	DECILE RANK	NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	1,131	41	9	1,124	43	9	4
ANDERSON	579	39	7	590	40	8	4
ATCHISON	914	41	9	1,085	42	9	2
BARBER	380	33	5	383	36	5	7
BARTON	1,988	39	7	1,932	40	8	1
BOURBON	1,121	41	9	1,155	43	10	5
BROWN	804	41	9	754	42	9	1
BUTLER	2,471	19	1	2,370	18	1	-8
CHASE	188	35	6	170	33	4	-5
CHAUTAUQUA	367	48	10	369	48	10	0
CHEROKEE	1,798	45	10	1,704	43	9	-5
CHEYENNE	259	41	9	269	42	9	3
CLARK	172	31	4	187	33	5	7
CLAY	566	34	5	492	31	4	-8
CLOUD	666	42	9	629	41	8	-2
COFFEY	512	26	2	422	23	1	-14
COMANCHE	97	31	4	100	31	4	-1
COWLEY	2,526	37	7	2,498	37	7	1
CRAWFORD	2,219	38	7	2,287	39	7	2
DECATUR	208	30	3	233	36	6	20
DICKINSON	1,406	33	5	1,392	33	4	1
DONIPHAN	600	36	6	581	36	5	-2
DOUGLAS	3,362	27	2	3,553	27	2	2
EDWARDS	246	42	10	261	49	10	16
ELK	416	53	10	397	55	10	4
ELLIS	1,094	26	2	1,051	26	2	-2
ELLSWORTH	351	29	3	373	29	3	0
FINNEY	3,495	42	9	4,070	47	10	12
FORD	2,897	49	10	3,286	54	10	10
FRANKLIN	1,337	28	2	1,291	27	2	-2
GEARY	3,764	58	10	3,631	56	10	-3
GOVE	173	23	1	208	28	3	22
GRAHAM	214	40	8	198	39	7	-2

[1] U.S. Department of Agriculture. (Updated September 28, 2000). *School lunch program fact sheet.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 2, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/Lunch/AboutLunch/faqs.htm

[2] Hoffman, L. (2000, Summer). Overview of public elementary and secondary schools and districts: School year 1998-99. *Education Statistics Quarterly, 2* (2). Retrieved October 2, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2000/quarterly/summer/2/feat/q2-5.html#H7

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-99 AVERAGE NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1993-99 AVERAGE PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	BASE YEARS - 1993-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT APPROVED FOR FREE MEALS	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	752	41	9	720	40	8	-2
GRAY	350	28	2	410	32	4	14
GREELEY	107	31	4	97	31	3	-2
GREENWOOD	505	40	8	474	40	7	-1
HAMILTON	197	40	7	228	43	9	8
HARPER	526	41	9	507	42	8	1
HARVEY	1,652	29	3	1,794	31	3	4
HASKELL	353	38	7	344	36	6	-4
HODGEMAN	128	26	2	137	28	2	6
JACKSON	690	29	2	649	27	2	-6
JEFFERSON	998	23	1	998	23	1	-1
JEWELL	265	40	8	257	40	8	0
JOHNSON	6,223	9	1	5,859	8	1	-10
KEARNY	483	41	9	456	39	7	-4
KINGMAN	533	33	4	584	36	6	9
KIOWA	180	32	4	164	32	4	-2
LABETTE	1,667	38	7	1,709	39	7	2
LANE	134	28	2	145	32	4	14
LEAVENWORTH	2,504	21	1	2,416	20	1	-3
LINCOLN	203	32	4	200	32	4	-2
LINN	725	36	6	709	35	5	-1
LOGAN	242	38	7	234	41	8	6
LYON	2,576	41	9	2,637	42	9	1
MARION	825	32	4	799	31	4	-3
MARSHALL	685	27	2	678	28	2	2
MCPHERSON	1,077	20	1	967	19	1	-8
MEADE	190	30	3	168	25	2	-15
MIAMI	1,133	24	1	1,140	24	1	-2
MITCHELL	483	34	5	471	34	5	1
MONTGOMERY	2,534	41	8	2,557	41	8	1
MORRIS	397	36	6	352	34	5	-6
MORTON	268	34	5	331	41	8	18
NEMAHA	505	26	1	451	24	1	-9
NEOSHO	1,306	40	8	1,335	42	9	5
NESS	202	29	3	193	30	3	4
NORTON	347	32	4	320	31	3	-3
OSAGE	989	30	3	883	27	2	-11
OSBORNE	181	35	6	180	36	6	5
OTTAWA	390	28	2	329	24	1	-16
PAWNEE	451	35	6	475	39	7	9
PHILLIPS	398	35	5	394	35	5	2
POTTAWATOMIE	983	26	1	965	26	2	-1
PRATT	511	29	3	488	30	3	3
RAWLINS	228	41	8	190	37	6	-8
RENO	3,785	35	6	3,721	36	6	1
REPUBLIC	379	35	5	332	32	4	-8
RICE	820	40	8	816	40	8	0
RILEY	2,071	30	3	1,957	29	3	-4
ROOKS	412	37	6	400	37	6	0
RUSH	272	40	8	276	42	9	4
RUSSELL	531	39	7	510	40	7	2
SALINE	2,922	34	5	3,225	36	6	8
SCOTT	358	31	4	357	33	4	6
SEDGWICK	26,719	37	6	28,497	38	7	3
SEWARD	2,363	47	10	2,530	50	10	6
SHAWNEE	9,397	36	6	10,204	38	7	8
SHERIDAN	118	25	1	100	22	1	-12
SHERMAN	455	37	6	407	34	5	-8
SMITH	276	34	5	289	36	6	9
STAFFORD	483	43	10	480	46	10	6
STANTON	232	40	8	214	38	7	-5
STEVENS	381	30	3	442	36	6	17
SUMNER	1,471	31	4	1,450	31	3	1
THOMAS	448	29	3	425	29	3	0
TREGO	184	31	4	133	25	2	-19
WABAUNSEE	348	27	2	309	27	2	-3
WALLACE	162	38	7	148	35	5	-9
WASHINGTON	513	37	7	515	36	6	-2
WICHITA	177	35	5	169	34	5	-1
WILSON	938	44	10	928	43	9	0
WOODSON	252	40	8	247	42	9	4
WYANDOTTE	15,811	56	10	16,204	59	10	4
KANSAS	**146,673**	**31.9**		**149,724**	**32.2**		**1.0**

Data are from Kansas State Board of Education. Negative percent change indicates improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

CHILDHOOD DEATHS

In the 2000 *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, Kansas ranked 26th nationally for its 1997 childhood death rate (1=best; 51=worst). Nationally, trend data show that the childhood death rate declined from 31 deaths per 100,000 children ages 1 to 14 to 25 deaths out of every 100,000 children ages 1 to 14 from 1990 to 1997. Deaths have decreased largely as a result of medical advances as well as a general decline in motor vehicle deaths. Kansas has followed the general trend downward in the childhood death rate, though more slowly than the national decline. The Kansas childhood death rate improved from 29 to 27 deaths per 100,000 children from 1990 to 1997.[1]

In 1999, 140 children between the ages 1 to 14 died in the state of Kansas. This represents a childhood death rate of 26.2 deaths per 100,000 children. It also amounts to an improvement of 6.1 percent compared to the base years (1994-1998). Still, nearly one-third of Kansas counties (31.4 percent) experienced an increase in childhood deaths in comparing 1999 to the base years. Also alarming is the data showing that more than one-third (35.2 percent) of Kansas counties had death rates above the national rate of 25 deaths per 100,000 in 1999. The larger counties produced mixed results in 1999: Douglas, Leavenworth, Riley and Sedgwick experienced increases, while Johnson and Wyandotte childhood death rates declined.

The leading cause of childhood deaths is unintentional injuries. Motor vehicles, fires/burns, drowning, falls and poisoning most often cause these injuries. Childhood deaths and injuries result not only in pain, loss and suffering but in a financial cost as well. More than $224 billion a year is spent on medical care, rehabilitation and lost income. Preventing childhood deaths and injuries has the following cost/benefit:

- $1 spent on child safety seats saves $32
- $1 spent on smoke alarms saves $69
- $1 spent on bicycle helmets saves $29
- $1 spent on center and edge lines on roads saves $3 in medical costs alone
- $1 spent on counseling by pediatricians to prevent injuries saves $10
- $1 spent on poison-control-center services saves $7 in medical expenses[2]

Notably, childhood death and injury rates vary based on a child's age, gender, race and socioeconomic status. Children at higher risk are younger, male, minority and poor. Racial disparities appear to have more to do with living in impoverished environments that with ethnicity. States and local communities should consider promoting policies and practices that reduce financial barriers to safety devices, increase education efforts and improve the safety of the environment. Effective strategies exist for reducing death and injury among these populations at risk.[3]

[1] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2000). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2000*, Baltimore, MD: Author.

[2] Koplan, J.P., & Thacker, S. B. (2000). *Fact book for the year 2000: Working to prevent and control injury in the United States.* Atlanta, GA: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control. Retrieved October 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/pub-res/FactBook/fbkintro.htm

[3] National SAFE KIDS Campaign. (2000, October 10). Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 10, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.safekids.org/fact99/ar99.html

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	.6	19.6	4	1	34	8.0	73
ANDERSON	.8	49.6	9	2	124	10.0	150
ATCHISON	.8	23.4	4	1	30	7.0	27
BARBER	.6	52.1	9	0	+	+	+
BARTON	.8	13.2	2	0	0	6.0	-100
BOURBON	1.4	47.3	8	2	70	9.0	47
BROWN	.8	33.9	6	0	+	+	+
BUTLER	2.4	18.5	3	2	15	6.0	-19
CHASE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
CHAUTAUQUA	.4	51.8	9	1	134	10.0	158
CHEROKEE	1.6	35.4	7	0	0	6.0	-100
CHEYENNE	.4	68.1	10	1	171	10.0	151
CLARK	.8	172.3	10	0	+	+	+
CLAY	.6	32.7	6	0	+	+	+
CLOUD	.4	22.2	4	1	59	9.0	166
COFFEY	.4	21.9	4	0	+	+	+
COMANCHE	.2	52.2	9	0	+	+	+
COWLEY	2.8	36.9	7	3	41	8.0	11
CRAWFORD	1.8	27.1	4	1	15	6.0	-43
DECATUR	.2	28.7	5	0	+	+	+
DICKINSON	1.4	35.5	7	1	26	7.0	-27
DONIPHAN	.0	+	+	1	66	9.0	*
DOUGLAS	1.4	9.4	2	3	20	7.0	108
EDWARDS	.4	58.5	9	0	+	+	+
ELK	.2	35.7	7	0	+	+	+
ELLIS	1.4	26.7	4	1	20	7.0	-26
ELLSWORTH	.4	36.5	7	0	+	+	+
FINNEY	3.2	33.1	6	6	59	8.0	78
FORD	3.0	45.1	8	2	30	7.0	-34
FRANKLIN	2.4	45.7	8	1	19	7.0	-59
GEARY	4.0	65.0	10	1	19	6.0	-71
GOVE	.4	65.1	10	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	.2	30.5	5	0	+	+	+
GRANT	1.2	56.6	9	0	+	+	+

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRAY	.2	14.9	2	0	+	+	+
GREELEY	.2	47.9	8	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	.0	+	+	1	70	9.0	*
HAMILTON	.2	45.6	8	0	+	+	+
HARPER	.4	32.0	5	0	+	+	+
HARVEY	2.2	32.9	6	1	15	6.0	-55
HASKELL	.6	60.8	10	0	+	+	+
HODGEMAN	.0	+	+	1	210	10.0	*
JACKSON	1.4	54.1	9	2	78	9.0	44
JEFFERSON	.8	21.5	4	2	53	8.0	149
JEWELL	.6	84.5	10	0	+	+	+
JOHNSON	13.0	15.6	2	8	9	6.0	-41
KEARNY	.4	36.9	7	1	94	10.0	155
KINGMAN	1.4	78.2	10	0	+	+	+
KIOWA	.2	29.5	5	0	+	+	+
LABETTE	2.4	51.5	9	0	0	6.0	-100
LANE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
LEAVENWORTH	3.2	22.0	4	4	27	7.0	24
LINCOLN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
LINN	.8	45.0	8	0	+	+	+
LOGAN	.2	32.7	6	0	+	+	+
LYON	3.0	41.2	8	2	28	7.0	-32
MARION	.4	16.4	3	1	42	8.0	158
MARSHALL	1.0	42.6	8	0	+	+	+
MCPHERSON	1.6	28.0	5	5	88	9.0	214
MEADE	.2	21.4	4	0	+	+	+
MIAMI	1.0	18.2	3	0	0	6.0	-100
MITCHELL	.4	29.6	5	1	76	9.0	158
MONTGOMERY	1.4	19.1	3	9	128	10.0	570
MORRIS	.4	33.0	6	0	+	+	+
MORTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
NEMAHA	.8	34.8	7	1	45	8.0	30
NEOSHO	1.2	35.6	7	2	62	9.0	73
NESS	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
NORTON	.2	21.4	4	0	+	+	+
OSAGE	.6	17.1	3	0	+	+	+
OSBORNE	1.4	160.6	10	0	+	+	+
OTTAWA	.4	34.1	6	0	+	+	+
PAWNEE	.6	43.0	8	1	76	9.0	76

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF CHILDHOOD DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 CHILDHOOD DEATH RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PHILLIPS	.2	17.0	3	0	+	+	+
POTTAWATOMIE	1.4	34.0	6	1	23	7.0	-31
PRATT	.2	10.6	2	1	55	8.0	419
RAWLINS	.4	62.1	10	0	+	+	+
RENO	4.2	34.4	7	6	50	8.0	44
REPUBLIC	.4	36.9	7	1	97	10.0	164
RICE	.6	28.5	5	0	+	+	+
RILEY	2.0	17.3	3	3	28	7.0	62
ROOKS	.2	16.8	3	1	89	10.0	428
RUSH	.2	32.8	6	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	.2	14.8	2	0	+	+	+
SALINE	1.8	17.2	3	2	20	7.0	14
SCOTT	.6	51.7	9	0	+	+	+
SEDGWICK	26.6	28.6	5	30	31	8.0	10
SEWARD	.8	16.0	3	0	0	6.0	-100
SHAWNEE	10.8	32.5	6	5	15	6.0	-53
SHERIDAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
SHERMAN	.8	60.0	10	1	79	9.0	31
SMITH	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
STANTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
STEVENS	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
SUMNER	2.2	36.8	7	1	17	6.0	-54
THOMAS	.4	22.2	4	0	+	+	+
TREGO	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WABAUNSEE	.4	29.1	5	1	75	9.0	157
WALLACE	.2	51.5	9	1	265	10.0	415
WASHINGTON	.4	32.1	6	0	+	+	+
WICHITA	.4	59.4	9	0	+	+	+
WILSON	.6	29.8	5	2	101	10.0	239
WOODSON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	12.8	38.3	8	11	34	8.0	-12
KANSAS	**149**	**27.9**		**140**	**26.2**		**-6.1**

Mortality data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Childhood mortality rates represent the number of deaths per 100,000 children ages 1-14. Population data are estimates from the U.S. Census. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

+ Rates are not calculated for counties with too few children for meaningful interpretation.

* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

INFANT MORTALITY

Of all the milestones that young children attain, one of the most important is reaching the 1-year mark. Infant mortality rates represent the number of deaths of children less than 1 year old per 1,000 live births. During the last three decades, infant mortality rates have drastically improved, decreasing from a national rate of 26 infant deaths per thousand live births in 1960 to 7.2 infant deaths per thousand live births in 1997. Close review of the data shows that these significant declines are primarily due to medical advancements. For example, neonatal deaths (those occurring during the first 27 days of life) show a very steep decline from 18.7 to 4.8 deaths per thousand live births, while post-neonatal deaths dropped from 7.3 to 2.5 deaths per thousand live births. Until 1998, the data showed a steady decline in infant mortality rates; however, 1998 data show that the national average has stalled at 7.2 infant deaths per thousand live births. This is the first time in 40 years that the United States has experienced no improvement.[1]

Following the recent national trend, Kansas continued to experience steady improvement in its infant mortality rate in 1999 with a 2.6 percent decline. Statewide, 7.3 infant deaths per thousand live births occurred during that year. The most populous counties experienced mixed findings. Improvements (i.e., decline in infant mortality rate) were seen in Douglas, Johnson and Sedgwick counties, while the rate worsened (i.e., increase in infant mortality rate) in Geary, Leavenworth, Shawnee and Wyandotte counties.

The three leading causes of infant deaths continue to be congenital anomalies, disorders related to short gestation and low birth weight, and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).[2] These three causes together account for nearly one-half of all infant deaths. Respiratory distress and maternal complications make up the other two among the top five causes of infant death. Infant mortality rates have been found to be highest for infants whose mothers: began prenatal care after the first trimester, were teenagers or were older than 40, did not complete high school, were unmarried, or smoked during pregnancy. Infant mortality also was higher for male infants, multiple births and infants born pre-term or of low birth weight.[3]

Differences also exist among racial and ethnic groups. Despite a 16 percent overall decline in infant mortality rates in the last decade, the infant mortality rate among African Americans remains more than twice that of whites. While the poverty rate for African Americans is more than twice the rate for whites, studies show that the differences in infant mortality and morbidity rates cannot be explained by inequalities in social or economic circumstances alone.[4] Recent data show that the cause of death for black infants is four times more likely to be related to low birth weight than for white infants, strongly suggesting unequal access to prenatal care.[5]

Approximately 30,000 infants die in the United States each year. Although the U.S. infant mortality rates have been declining during the past several decades, the nation still ranks poorly on an international level, and the significant differences among the U.S. population subgroups present cause for concern.[6] The Center for Disease Control calls for both medical interventions and community-based strategies to help address infant mortality.[7]

[1] Children's Defense Fund. (2000). *The State of America's Children: Yearbook 2000.* Washington, DC: Author.
[2] *Faststats A to Z: Infant mortality.* (2000, October 12). Hyattsville, MD: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 12, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/under_construction/completed/infmort.htm
[3] Center for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. (2000,October 12). *Infant mortality rates vary by race and ethnicity: New report examines contributing causes.* Retrieved October 12, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/releases/99facts/99sheets/infmort.htm
[4] National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. (2000). *Health disparities: Bridging the gap.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://156.40.88.3/strategic-plan/disparities/disparities.pdf
[5] Children's Defense Fund. (2000). *The State of America's Children: Yearbook 2000.* Washington, DC: Author.
[6] Marks, J. S. (1997). *Testimony on infant mortality and prenatal care by James S. Marks, before the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, Subcommittee on Human Resources and Intergovernmental Relations, March 13, 1997.* Retrieved October 20, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://waisgate.hhs.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate?WAISdocID=166149366+1+0+0&WAISaction=retrieve
[7] Ibid.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 INFANT MORTALITY RATE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 INFANT MORTALITY RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	0	1.2	2	1	5.3	7	359
ANDERSON	1	6.5	6	1	9.6	8	47
ATCHISON	1	2.8	3	2	10.4	9	266
BARBER	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
BARTON	4	11.6	9	1	2.6	6	-77
BOURBON	1	3.1	3	2	10.5	9	236
BROWN	1	9.0	7	1	8.0	8	-11
BUTLER	5	7.0	6	4	5.3	7	-25
CHASE	0	8.2	7	0	+	+	+
CHAUTAUQUA	2	48.8	10	0	+	+	+
CHEROKEE	2	7.5	6	3	10.3	9	38
CHEYENNE	0	13.2	10	0	+	+	+
CLARK	0	16.5	10	0	+	+	+
CLAY	0	4.3	4	1	10.9	9	153
CLOUD	1	6.0	5	0	+	+	+
COFFEY	1	9.6	8	0	+	+	+
COMANCHE	0	9.2	8	0	+	+	+
COWLEY	3	6.3	5	4	7.9	8	26
CRAWFORD	3	5.6	5	4	7.5	8	35
DECATUR	0	5.6	5	0	+	+	+
DICKINSON	1	6.4	5	1	4.4	6	-30
DONIPHAN	0	2.1	2	0	+	+	+
DOUGLAS	7	6.1	5	3	2.5	6	-59
EDWARDS	0	5.2	4	0	+	+	+
ELK	0	7.2	6	0	+	+	+
ELLIS	2	7.5	6	4	11.2	9	50
ELLSWORTH	1	11.6	9	1	14.9	10	29
FINNEY	6	6.9	6	1	1.1	6	-84
FORD	6	9.5	8	5	7.5	7	-22
FRANKLIN	3	8.6	7	3	8.1	8	-6
GEARY	9	13.0	9	15	25.4	10	95
GOVE	0	5.5	4	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	0	7.8	7	0	+	+	+

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COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVERAGE NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	INFANT MORTALITY RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF INFANT DEATHS	INFANT MORTALITY RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	2	10.7	9	2	12.5	9	17
GRAY	0	2.1	3	0	+	+	+
GREELEY	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	1	9.9	8	0	+	+	+
HAMILTON	0	14.1	10	0	+	+	+
HARPER	0	3.0	3	0	+	+	+
HARVEY	3	7.6	6	1	2.2	6	-71
HASKELL	0	2.7	3	0	+	+	+
HODGEMAN	0	10.4	9	0	+	+	+
JACKSON	1	3.7	3	6	40.0	10	968
JEFFERSON	3	14.6	10	0	.0	6	-100
JEWELL	0	5.7	5	0	+	+	+
JOHNSON	32	5.3	4	34	5.1	7	-3
KEARNY	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
KINGMAN	1	13.1	10	0	+	+	+
KIOWA	0	9.8	8	0	+	+	+
LABETTE	1	3.5	3	2	7.0	7	100
LANE	0	8.1	7	0	+	+	+
LEAVENWORTH	6	6.8	6	6	6.9	7	2
LINCOLN	0	.0	2	1	27.8	10	*
LINN	1	8.2	7	2	18.0	10	120
LOGAN	0	12.5	9	0	+	+	+
LYON	3	6.9	6	1	1.9	6	-73
MARION	1	4.2	4	1	6.8	7	61
MARSHALL	1	5.7	5	0	+	+	+
MCPHERSON	3	8.4	7	1	3.0	6	-64
MEADE	1	21.1	10	0	+	+	+
MIAMI	2	7.2	6	2	5.2	7	-28
MITCHELL	1	8.5	7	0	+	+	+
MONTGOMERY	4	8.6	7	5	10.8	9	26
MORRIS	0	2.7	3	1	16.9	10	532
MORTON	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
NEMAHA	2	13.7	10	1	6.5	7	-53
NEOSHO	0	2.0	2	2	11.7	9	481
NESS	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
NORTON	0	3.6	3	1	23.3	10	544
OSAGE	1	7.1	6	1	5.2	7	-27
OSBORNE	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
OTTAWA	0	.0	2	1	14.1	10	*
PAWNEE	1	16.0	10	0	+	+	+
PHILLIPS	0	6.3	5	0	+	+	+
POTTAWATOMIE	1	5.2	4	3	11.8	9	128
PRATT	1	10.7	9	0	+	+	+
RAWLINS	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
RENO	7	8.2	7	5	6.1	7	-26
REPUBLIC	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
RICE	1	11.4	9	1	8.6	8	-25
RILEY	3	3.2	3	4	4.2	6	28
ROOKS	1	12.8	9	0	+	+	+
RUSH	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
SALINE	7	9.1	8	6	8.5	8	-6
SCOTT	1	12.1	9	0	+	+	+
SEDGWICK	64	8.9	7	62	8.2	8	-8
SEWARD	3	5.7	5	5	9.6	8	68
SHAWNEE	22	9.3	8	30	12.7	10	37
SHERIDAN	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
SHERMAN	0	4.7	4	0	+	+	+
SMITH	0	4.9	4	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	1	14.9	10	0	+	+	+
STANTON	0	9.7	8	0	+	+	+
STEVENS	0	4.7	4	1	11.2	9	139
SUMNER	2	5.4	4	0	.0	6	-100
THOMAS	1	10.5	9	3	31.6	10	199
TREGO	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
WABAUNSEE	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
WALLACE	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
WASHINGTON	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
WICHITA	0	10.2	8	0	+	+	+
WILSON	1	5.1	4	1	7.7	8	50
WOODSON	0	.0	2	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	25	9.3	8	32	11.4	9	24
KANSAS	**278**	**7.4**		**281**	**7.3**		**-2.6**

Mortality data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Infant mortality rates represent the number of infant deaths per 1,000 infants. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE

Prenatal care refers to the care of a pregnant woman and her fetus throughout pregnancy, with the goal of making sure both are healthy at delivery. Prenatal care is intended to educate women about what to expect during pregnancy and involves regular tests on the woman and fetus to detect disease, defects or other potential hazards. Early prenatal care is the care that begins during the first three months of pregnancy. Early prenatal care is important for promoting healthy pregnancy outcomes and for reducing infant mortality rates.

Babies born to women who do not receive prenatal care are four times more likely to die before their first birthday.[1] Early and continuous prenatal care also help prevent low birth weight and identify the conditions and behavioral factors that contribute toward low birth weight, such as smoking, alcohol and drug abuse, inadequate weight gain during pregnancy and repeat pregnancy in six months or less.[2]

Approximately 10,830 babies are born each day in the United States. On average, 466 of those babies are born to mothers who started prenatal care in the third trimester or received no prenatal care at all.[3] Nationally, the percent of women seeking early prenatal care has been steadily increasing during the 1990s. In 1999, 83.2 percent of pregnant women received early prenatal care, up slightly from 82.8 percent in 1998.[4] Still, these numbers fall short of the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 90 percent.[5]

In 1999, Kansas exceeded the national rate with 85.8 percent of all Kansas newborns having received early prenatal care. This represents a very slight increase (i.e., 0.5 percent positive change) from the base years (1994-1998). One-quarter of Kansas counties (24.8 percent) achieved or exceeded the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 90 percent. Counties showing significant improvement (percent change = 14 percent or higher) include Gove, Grant, Haskell and Seward. Notable ground was lost in Greeley, Hodgeman, Rawlins, Trego and Wallace counties (percent change = 17 percent or greater) where the percent of pregnant women who received early prenatal care dropped as low as a grim 47 percent in Greeley County.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	151	88	4	156	83	7	-5
ANDERSON	77	83	7	89	86	6	3
ATCHISON	172	82	8	155	80	8	-2
BARBER	46	85	6	42	78	8	-9
BARTON	311	83	8	311	82	7	-1
BOURBON	156	82	8	149	79	8	-3
BROWN	113	85	7	110	89	4	5
BUTLER	654	89	3	676	90	3	1
CHASE	41	85	7	38	90	2	7
CHAUTAUQUA	26	80	8	29	88	4	10
CHEROKEE	237	81	8	233	80	7	-1
CHEYENNE	26	87	5	20	91	2	5
CLARK	21	85	6	23	77	9	-10
CLAY	82	88	4	79	87	5	-1
CLOUD	89	89	2	90	86	6	-4
COFFEY	92	89	2	90	92	2	3
COMANCHE	17	79	8	13	81	7	3
COWLEY	385	86	6	439	87	5	1
CRAWFORD	430	86	5	432	82	7	-5
DECATUR	31	87	5	20	87	4	0
DICKINSON	191	87	4	192	86	6	-2
DONIPHAN	81	84	7	82	86	5	3
DOUGLAS	948	88	4	1,023	87	4	-1
EDWARDS	30	79	8	32	86	5	10
ELK	24	86	5	19	90	2	5
ELLIS	299	93	1	335	94	1	1
ELLSWORTH	46	89	3	60	91	2	2
FINNEY	497	58	10	550	62	10	7
FORD	403	66	10	427	64	10	-4
FRANKLIN	277	85	6	320	87	5	2
GEARY	548	76	9	458	78	8	2
GOVE	32	87	5	31	100	1	15
GRAHAM	24	92	1	25	93	1	0

[1] Hwan, M. Y. (Updated September 18, 1998). Oh baby: Women receive more prenatal care today than a decade ago. *AMA Health Insight*. Washington, DC: American Medical Association. Retrieved September 26, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.ama-assn.org/insight/spec_cnn/patient/pat005

[2] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (1997, September 11). *Preventing infant mortality*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 30, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/1997pres/970911e.html

[3] Hwan, M. Y. (Updated September 18, 1998). Oh baby: Women receive more prenatal care today than a decade ago. *AMA Health Insight*. Washington, DC: American Medical Association. Retrieved September 26, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.ama-assn.org/insight/spec_cnn/patient/pat005

[4] Curtin, S. C., & Martin, J. A. (March 28, 2000). Births: Preliminary data for 1999. *National Vital Statistics Reports, 48* (14). Retrieved September 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvs48_14.pdf

[5] Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2000). *Healthy People 2010*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved November 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.health.gov/healthypeople/document/.

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COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT OF BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	105	71	10	129	81	7	14
GRAY	72	78	9	66	78	8	-1
GREELEY	14	74	10	8	47	10	-36
GREENWOOD	64	82	8	61	79	8	-3
HAMILTON	21	76	9	33	70	10	-8
HARPER	55	83	7	57	81	7	-2
HARVEY	338	86	6	391	86	5	0
HASKELL	45	61	10	61	75	9	24
HODGEMAN	16	84	7	17	63	10	-25
JACKSON	148	93	1	138	92	1	-1
JEFFERSON	183	89	2	204	89	3	1
JEWELL	31	89	3	27	79	8	-10
JOHNSON	5,731	94	1	6,283	95	1	1
KEARNY	43	66	10	64	69	10	4
KINGMAN	77	85	7	85	88	4	4
KIOWA	31	77	9	30	79	8	3
LABETTE	244	86	5	254	89	3	4
LANE	21	84	7	15	75	9	-10
LEAVENWORTH	774	91	2	781	90	3	-1
LINCOLN	26	90	2	32	89	4	-2
LINN	81	84	7	95	86	6	2
LOGAN	28	89	3	38	84	6	-5
LYON	380	80	8	371	73	9	-9
MARION	123	87	5	126	86	6	-1
MARSHALL	91	86	5	98	89	3	3
MCPHERSON	286	86	6	290	87	4	1
MEADE	50	76	9	47	72	9	-5
MIAMI	301	91	1	362	94	1	4
MITCHELL	61	87	4	47	76	9	-13
MONTGOMERY	386	88	4	389	84	6	-4
MORRIS	65	88	4	50	85	6	-3
MORTON	37	69	10	34	62	10	-11
NEMAHA	132	90	2	138	90	3	-1
NEOSHO	173	87	4	152	89	4	2
NESS	31	83	7	24	86	6	3
NORTON	48	87	4	39	91	2	4
OSAGE	178	91	1	183	96	1	5
OSBORNE	40	96	1	39	91	2	-5
OTTAWA	60	92	1	63	89	4	-4
PAWNEE	64	86	6	69	84	7	-2
PHILLIPS	57	90	2	53	90	3	0
POTTAWATOMIE	235	87	4	216	85	6	-2
PRATT	95	85	6	89	86	6	1
RAWLINS	25	88	3	14	74	9	-17
RENO	633	79	9	658	80	7	2
REPUBLIC	49	88	4	40	91	2	3
RICE	99	81	8	86	76	9	-6
RILEY	839	85	6	839	88	4	3
ROOKS	57	92	1	55	86	5	-6
RUSH	28	89	2	30	81	7	-9
RUSSELL	67	89	3	57	92	1	4
SALINE	679	91	2	630	89	3	-1
SCOTT	49	76	9	58	77	9	2
SEDGWICK	6,162	86	5	6,463	87	5	0
SEWARD	236	53	10	318	62	10	16
SHAWNEE	2,100	90	2	2,107	89	3	0
SHERIDAN	20	88	3	25	93	1	5
SHERMAN	74	86	6	89	90	3	5
SMITH	36	89	3	24	100	1	13
STAFFORD	39	74	10	52	83	7	11
STANTON	32	77	9	30	77	9	0
STEVENS	56	67	10	61	69	10	2
SUMNER	288	86	5	278	86	5	0
THOMAS	101	89	3	81	85	6	-4
TREGO	27	95	1	24	77	9	-19
WABAUNSEE	66	89	2	80	91	2	2
WALLACE	18	78	9	12	63	10	-19
WASHINGTON	63	88	3	67	92	2	4
WICHITA	29	74	9	34	79	8	6
WILSON	97	83	7	114	88	4	5
WOODSON	31	86	6	32	91	2	7
WYANDOTTE	2,116	79	9	2,204	79	8	1
KANSAS	**31,714**	**85.4**		**33,058**	**85.8**		**0.5**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Positive percent change represents improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

KINDERGARTNERS FULLY IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2

Rates of childhood immunization are an indicator of the extent to which children are protected from serious preventable diseases. The measure presented here refers to those kindergartners who, by age 2, had received the combined immunization series (often referred to as the 4:3:1 combined series). This series includes vaccinations for Diphtheria, Tetanus Toxoids and Pertussis (DTP); Poliovirus; and Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR).

Immunizations protect children from preventable illnesses, such as polio, measles and whooping cough. Immunizations are a particularly effective strategy because when a high enough proportion of the population is immunized transmission of diseases that spread from person to person may be interrupted in the community, thus providing protection for those who are not immunized.[1] For example, before the polio vaccine was available, 13,000 to 20,000 cases of paralytic polio were reported each year in the United States. These annual epidemics of polio often left thousands of victims—mostly children—in braces, crutches, wheelchairs and iron lungs. The polio immunization has eliminated paralytic polio caused by wild polio viruses in the United States and the entire Western hemisphere.[2]

In 1998, the United States reported the highest rates of childhood immunization ever achieved. Seventy-nine percent of 19- to-35-month-olds received the combined immunization series. This high success rate can be attributed to the Childhood Immunization Initiative and the Vaccines for Children Program, launched in 1993 and 1994, respectively. These federal initiatives made vaccines readily available through private pediatricians' offices and eliminated the need for states to use Medicaid funds to purchase vaccines for Medicaid-enrolled children. The initiatives also supported public education, neighborhood outreach, grants to extend clinic hours, registries and other innovations.[3] Strategies to reach children of families with low incomes are particularly important because children living below the poverty threshold are less likely to receive the combined immunization series than children living above the poverty threshold (74 percent compared with 82 percent in 1998).[4]

In 1999, Kansas made good headway in improving immunization rates (17.4 percent improvement). Statewide immunization rates improved from the base years' rate of 63.8 percent to the 1999 rate of 74.9 percent. Twelve counties celebrated an increase of 50 percent or higher, with the biggest improvement in Graham County at 96 percent. Rawlins County had 100 percent of its kindergartners immunized by age 2, and 13 more counties in Kansas achieved the *Healthy People 2010* goal of 90 percent or higher. Still, Kansas has a ways to go to bring the entire state up to the 90 percent goal. The lowest rate was found at 56 percent in Wyandotte County. Additionally, nine other counties were only able to immunize 70 percent or less of their kindergartners by age 2. Clearly, community health outreach efforts must be strengthened and expanded to improve immunization rates in these areas.

[1] National Immunization Program, Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (2000). *Vaccination coverage in the U.S.: Frequently asked questions.* Atlanta, GA: Author. Retrieved September 15, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nip/coverage/faq.htm.

[2] National Immunization Program, Center for Disease Control and Prevention. (Updated March 28, 2000). *What would happen if we stopped vaccinations?* Atlanta, GA: Author. Retrieved September 15, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/fs/gen/WhatIfStop.htm

[3] Children's Defense Fund. (2000). *The State of America's Children: Yearbook 2000.* Washington, DC: Author.

[4] MacKay, A. P., Fingerhut, L. A., Duran, C. R., (2000). *Health, United States, 2000 with adolescent health chartbook.* Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 ESTIMATED AVERAGE NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE PERCENT IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 ESTIMATED NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT IMMUNIZED	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	110	60	8	96	71	10	19
ANDERSON	61	60	8	69	75	7	25
ATCHISON	72	47	10	97	72	9	53
BARBER	61	68	5	47	78	6	15
BARTON	193	56	9	227	79	6	41
BOURBON	111	57	8	120	78	6	37
BROWN	78	63	7	71	76	7	21
BUTLER	581	67	5	613	77	7	15
CHASE	28	66	6	28	72	9	9
CHAUTAUQUA	30	55	9	30	74	8	36
CHEROKEE	146	52	9	187	71	9	37
CHEYENNE	24	64	6	23	80	6	25
CLARK	21	57	8	26	74	8	30
CLAY	79	70	4	83	87	3	25
CLOUD	57	55	9	76	83	4	51
COFFEY	83	67	5	89	81	5	20
COMANCHE	22	76	1	20	83	4	9
COWLEY	308	66	6	265	71	9	8
CRAWFORD	232	54	9	267	68	10	25
DECATUR	32	67	5	32	92	1	36
DICKINSON	186	65	6	188	82	5	26
DONIPHAN	59	54	9	86	72	9	34
DOUGLAS	699	76	1	677	78	6	3
EDWARDS	31	69	4	40	88	3	26
ELK	21	50	10	22	68	10	35
ELLIS	178	69	5	209	86	3	25
ELLSWORTH	59	74	2	42	87	3	18
FINNEY	447	53	9	614	70	10	33
FORD	304	61	7	359	72	9	18
FRANKLIN	216	61	7	207	72	9	18
GEARY	403	60	8	396	72	9	20
GOVE	32	62	7	32	97	1	55
GRAHAM	18	47	10	21	91	1	96

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 ESTIMATED AVERAGE NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE PERCENT IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 ESTIMATED NUMBER IMMUNIZED BY AGE 2	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT IMMUNIZED	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	76	61	7	94	77	6	27
GRAY	64	70	4	87	81	5	17
GREELEY	16	69	4	14	75	7	9
GREENWOOD	45	55	9	69	90	2	62
HAMILTON	24	75	1	24	74	8	-1
HARPER	57	74	2	52	78	6	6
HARVEY	289	73	2	251	71	9	-3
HASKELL	38	56	9	44	74	8	32
HODGEMAN	22	73	2	23	88	2	20
JACKSON	123	79	1	125	84	4	5
JEFFERSON	208	73	3	186	81	5	12
JEWELL	29	70	4	32	85	4	22
JOHNSON	3,794	76	1	4,041	79	6	4
KEARNY	67	66	6	68	76	7	15
KINGMAN	63	70	4	73	83	4	18
KIOWA	34	73	3	30	93	1	28
LABETTE	164	51	10	166	64	10	26
LANE	24	74	2	17	89	2	21
LEAVENWORTH	594	70	4	590	77	7	10
LINCOLN	28	81	1	30	75	8	-8
LINN	68	55	9	66	67	10	23
LOGAN	22	72	3	14	75	7	4
LYON	307	69	4	326	81	5	18
MARION	117	66	6	115	86	3	32
MARSHALL	94	61	7	96	86	3	41
MCPHERSON	250	73	2	233	74	8	2
MEADE	34	73	3	42	83	4	15
MIAMI	183	60	8	233	73	8	20
MITCHELL	62	68	5	63	88	2	29
MONTGOMERY	213	48	10	280	69	10	43
MORRIS	57	71	3	40	78	6	9
MORTON	35	62	7	35	80	6	29
NEMAHA	102	77	1	106	87	3	14
NEOSHO	83	40	10	107	73	8	85
NESS	27	71	4	16	71	9	1
NORTON	45	60	8	51	90	2	51
OSAGE	145	68	5	135	82	5	21
OSBORNE	22	63	7	20	84	4	33
OTTAWA	56	75	1	82	82	4	10
PAWNEE	51	64	6	52	91	2	41
PHILLIPS	51	61	7	59	93	1	54
POTTAWATOMIE	178	72	3	167	79	6	8
PRATT	61	61	7	70	77	7	28
RAWLINS	21	66	6	27	100	1	52
RENO	505	68	5	494	80	5	19
REPUBLIC	33	59	8	33	84	4	43
RICE	78	64	7	79	70	10	11
RILEY	395	72	3	343	78	6	9
ROOKS	53	74	2	47	95	1	29
RUSH	27	65	6	32	85	4	32
RUSSELL	49	56	9	64	91	2	62
SALINE	456	74	2	475	77	7	4
SCOTT	56	69	5	52	81	5	17
SEDGWICK	3,272	57	8	4,075	71	9	24
SEWARD	201	47	10	335	74	8	57
SHAWNEE	1,422	75	2	1,361	77	7	3
SHERIDAN	19	81	1	26	89	2	9
SHERMAN	58	70	4	66	93	1	32
SMITH	36	71	3	46	91	2	29
STAFFORD	44	64	6	40	73	8	14
STANTON	32	73	2	30	87	3	18
STEVENS	41	50	10	56	69	10	38
SUMNER	203	65	6	207	81	5	26
THOMAS	76	74	2	66	96	1	30
TREGO	23	69	4	28	93	1	35
WABAUNSEE	56	71	3	56	87	3	22
WALLACE	19	76	1	29	91	2	19
WASHINGTON	76	73	3	73	88	2	21
WICHITA	27	69	5	27	87	3	27
WILSON	79	56	8	103	77	7	38
WOODSON	17	50	10	17	83	4	66
WYANDOTTE	875	41	10	1,028	56	10	37
KANSAS	**21,249**	**63.8**		**23,096**	**74.9**		**17.4**

Data are from Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Rates are percent of kindergartners who were fully immunized by age 2, based on a retrospective survey of immunization certificates. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks, and counties displaying identical base and current year percentages may have a nonzero percent change. The number of children immunized is derived from the immunization sample data and kindergarten enrollment figures.

LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES

Infants are considered to be of low birth weight when they are born weighing less than 2,500 grams, or about 5.5 pounds. Nationally, 7.6 percent of newborns in 1999 were low-birth-weight babies. This rate remained unchanged from 1998. A gradual, upward trend has occurred in low-birth-weight births during the 1990s.[1] In fact, all 50 states worsened on this indicator from 1990-1997.[2]

One reason for the increase in low birth weight over the past several years is that the number of twin, triplet and higher-order multiple births has increased. Twins and other multiples are much more likely than singleton infants to be of low birth weight.[3] Multiple births have been more likely to occur for non-Hispanic white women than black or Hispanic women. While the rate of low-birth-weight babies has been increasing for white women during the 1990s, it has declined for black women and remained fairly stable for Hispanic women. Still, the low-birth-weight rate is nearly double for black women (13.1 per 1,000 live births) as compared to non-Hispanic white (6.6 per 1,000 live births) and Hispanic women (6.4 per 1,000 live births).[4]

Low birth weight is of particular concern because babies born this small are more likely to experience developmental problems, long-term disabilities and infant death. The risk of dying during the first year of life is 20 times higher for low-birth-weight babies (62 deaths per 1,000 births) than for babies of normal birth weight.[5] Risk factors associated with low-birth-weight births include smoking, poverty and low levels of educational attainment.[6] The poverty and education risk factors are thought to be connected to the lack of health insurance among women with low incomes. People with low incomes, high school dropouts and young adults (18-24 years old) are among the groups least likely to have health insurance.[7]

Kansas showed a slight increase from 7 percent low-birth-weight babies in 1998 to 7.1 percent in 1999.[8] In comparing 1999 to the base years (1993-1998), low-birth-weight babies increased by 5.6 percent in Kansas. In 1999, 16 counties increased the percent of low-birth-weight babies by 10 percent or more. The highest percent was in Stanton County at 15.4 percent. On the flip side, five counties had no low-birth-weight babies in 1999, and 24 counties recorded 5 percent or fewer.

	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	11	6.2	5	13	7.0	5	13
ANDERSON	6	6.5	6	12	11.5	10	77
ATCHISON	11	5.2	2	19	9.8	9	90
BARBER	4	7.8	9	3	5.6	3	-29
BARTON	26	6.8	7	24	6.3	4	-8
BOURBON	12	6.5	6	15	7.9	7	22
BROWN	7	5.5	3	6	4.8	3	-13
BUTLER	52	7.1	8	45	5.9	4	-16
CHASE	4	7.3	8	4	9.5	8	30
CHAUTAUQUA	2	5.5	3	4	12.1	10	121
CHEROKEE	18	6.0	5	25	8.6	7	43
CHEYENNE	1	2.6	1	0	.0	1	-100
CLARK	1	3.3	1	0	.0	1	-100
CLAY	5	5.6	3	8	8.7	8	56
CLOUD	7	6.6	7	7	6.7	5	2
COFFEY	7	6.6	7	7	7.1	6	8
COMANCHE	2	7.3	8	1	6.3	4	-15
COWLEY	25	5.5	3	33	6.5	5	17
CRAWFORD	27	5.5	3	32	6.0	4	10
DECATUR	1	3.4	1	2	8.7	8	159
DICKINSON	17	7.6	9	14	6.2	4	-19
DONIPHAN	6	5.8	4	6	6.3	4	8
DOUGLAS	70	6.5	6	69	5.7	3	-11
EDWARDS	3	7.9	9	3	8.1	7	3
ELK	3	10.1	10	1	4.5	3	-55
ELLIS	21	6.6	7	25	7.0	6	6
ELLSWORTH	4	8.1	10	6	9.0	8	10
FINNEY	53	6.1	5	73	8.2	7	35
FORD	43	7.1	8	52	7.8	6	9
FRANKLIN	23	7.1	8	25	6.7	5	-5
GEARY	64	8.9	10	54	9.2	8	3
GOVE	2	6.6	7	0	.0	1	-100
GRAHAM	2	6.3	5	2	7.4	6	19

[1] Curtin, S. C., & Martin, J. A. (March 28, 2000). Births: Preliminary data for 1999. *National Vital Statistics Reports, 48* (14). Retrieved September 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvs48_14.pdf

[2] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2000). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2000*, Baltimore, MD: Author.

[3] Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. (2000). *America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being, 2000.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 20, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childstats.gov/ac2000

[4] Curtin, S. C., & Martin, J. A. (March 28, 2000). Births: Preliminary data for 1999. *National Vital Statistics Reports, 48* (14). Retrieved September 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvs48_14.pdf

[5] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2000). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2000*, Baltimore, MD: Author.

[6] Maternal and Child Health Bureau. (2000). *Child Health USA 2000.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 2000 from the World Wide Web: ftp://158.72.84.9/ftp/mchb/chusa00.pdf

[7] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2000). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2000*, Baltimore, MD: Author.

[8] Ibid.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	PERCENT OF LOW-BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	11	7.6	9	14	8.8	8	15
GRAY	4	4.7	2	6	7.1	6	50
GREELEY	1	7.4	9	1	5.9	4	-20
GREENWOOD	6	7.2	8	8	10.3	9	43
HAMILTON	3	10.6	10	4	8.5	7	-19
HARPER	3	4.3	1	1	1.4	1	-66
HARVEY	21	5.2	2	25	5.5	3	5
HASKELL	6	7.8	9	3	3.7	2	-53
HODGEMAN	2	8.3	10	1	3.7	2	-56
JACKSON	8	4.9	2	9	6.0	4	23
JEFFERSON	13	6.5	6	17	7.4	6	14
JEWELL	1	3.4	1	4	11.8	10	245
JOHNSON	351	5.8	4	398	6.0	4	4
KEARNY	4	5.7	4	4	4.3	2	-25
KINGMAN	7	7.2	8	4	4.1	2	-43
KIOWA	2	5.9	4	4	10.3	9	74
LABETTE	18	6.4	6	32	11.3	9	76
LANE	0	1.6	1	2	10.0	9	515
LEAVENWORTH	56	6.5	6	68	7.8	7	20
LINCOLN	1	2.8	1	3	8.3	7	200
LINN	6	6.1	5	17	15.3	10	153
LOGAN	1	4.4	2	2	4.4	2	2
LYON	30	6.1	5	31	5.8	4	-4
MARION	7	4.8	2	7	4.8	3	-1
MARSHALL	5	5.1	2	10	9.0	8	77
MCPHERSON	18	5.4	3	17	5.1	3	-5
MEADE	4	5.4	3	10	15.2	10	179
MIAMI	21	6.3	5	25	6.5	5	4
MITCHELL	4	5.4	3	6	9.7	9	79
MONTGOMERY	29	6.6	7	38	8.2	7	24
MORRIS	5	6.2	5	2	3.4	2	-45
MORTON	3	4.8	2	4	7.0	6	47
NEMAHA	9	6.0	5	4	2.6	1	-57
NEOSHO	14	6.9	7	18	10.5	9	51
NESS	2	6.4	6	3	10.3	9	61
NORTON	3	5.8	4	1	2.3	1	-60
OSAGE	13	6.8	7	19	9.9	9	46
OSBORNE	3	7.6	9	4	9.3	8	22
OTTAWA	6	9.1	10	7	9.9	9	8
PAWNEE	4	5.9	4	5	6.0	4	2
PHILLIPS	2	2.8	1	4	6.8	5	139
POTTAWATOMIE	16	5.8	4	10	3.9	2	-33
PRATT	7	6.3	5	3	2.9	2	-54
RAWLINS	2	7.2	8	0	.0	1	-100
RENO	57	7.1	8	73	8.9	8	25
REPUBLIC	3	5.1	2	2	4.5	3	-10
RICE	10	8.2	10	8	6.9	5	-15
RILEY	56	5.7	4	67	7.0	5	22
ROOKS	4	6.4	6	1	1.6	1	-76
RUSH	1	4.5	2	1	2.7	2	-39
RUSSELL	6	7.4	9	0	.0	1	-100
SALINE	58	7.7	9	48	6.8	5	-12
SCOTT	5	7.9	9	6	7.8	6	-1
SEDGWICK	522	7.3	8	578	7.7	6	5
SEWARD	26	5.8	4	47	9.0	8	55
SHAWNEE	184	7.9	9	176	7.5	6	-5
SHERIDAN	1	5.3	3	4	14.8	10	179
SHERMAN	6	7.0	7	10	10.1	9	45
SMITH	2	4.4	1	2	8.3	7	91
STAFFORD	5	10.1	10	9	14.1	10	40
STANTON	2	4.3	1	6	15.4	10	254
STEVENS	5	6.3	6	7	7.9	7	24
SUMNER	21	6.4	6	9	2.8	2	-56
THOMAS	8	7.0	7	3	3.2	2	-55
TREGO	2	5.6	4	4	12.9	10	131
WABAUNSEE	4	5.4	3	1	1.1	1	-79
WALLACE	1	5.1	2	1	5.3	3	4
WASHINGTON	4	5.6	4	5	6.8	5	21
WICHITA	4	10.7	10	5	11.6	10	9
WILSON	7	6.3	6	10	7.7	6	22
WOODSON	2	6.6	7	2	5.7	3	-13
WYANDOTTE	236	8.7	10	232	8.3	7	-5
KANSAS	**2,517**	**6.7**		**2,762**	**7.1**		**5.6**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

HEAD START PARTICIPATION

Following data related to Head Start participation is worthwhile because of the significant benefits realized by children of low-income families who participate in good quality early childhood programs. In fact, such programs can save $7 for every $1 invested by increasing the likelihood that children will be literate, employed and enrolled in post-secondary education. This makes them less likely to be school dropouts, dependent on welfare or arrested for criminal activity or delinquency.[1]

Head Start is a comprehensive program that includes four fundamental components: education, health, parent involvement and social services.[2] Besides the above-mentioned benefits, this broad-based program leads to a multitude of other advantages for children, families and communities. The Children's Defense Fund's comprehensive review of research on the impact of Head Start on children's development found that Head Start:

- Has immediate positive effects on children's cognitive abilities
- Improves the school success of children, with children who participated in Head Start being less likely to be held back in school or assigned to special education classes
- Has immediate positive effects on children's self-esteem, achievement motivation and social behavior
- Helps children's physical health, motor coordination and development
- Improves children's nutrition, with Head Start children tending to have higher protein, calorie and essential nutrient intake
- Improves children's dental care, with Head Start children receiving better dental care, having fewer cavities and practicing better dental hygiene.[3]

In fiscal year 1998, Head Start served more than 822,000 children and their families across the nation.[4] During 2000, Kansas had 6,353 Head Start slots available, amounting to 53.1 slots per 100 children and a 7.7 increase as compared with the base years period (1995-1999). A significant improvement of 20 percent increase or more was seen among 26 Kansas counties. Unfortunately, losses of 20 percent or more occurred in 18 counties in the state. Although 22 counties had no Head Start slots, 18 counties had 100 or more slots per 100 children. These counties probably are serving families and children who are residents of other, adjacent counties.

	BASE YEARS - 1995-99			CURRENT YEAR - 2000			
COUNTY	HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	50	67	4	48	59	5	-12
ANDERSON	20	43	7	20	49	6	13
ATCHISON	54	43	7	51	54	6	25
BARBER	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
BARTON	54	33	8	54	36	7	10
BOURBON	50	43	7	48	47	7	9
BROWN	44	57	5	60	87	3	52
BUTLER	103	61	5	110	53	6	-14
CHASE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CHAUTAUQUA	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CHEROKEE	110	55	6	114	76	4	39
CHEYENNE	17	116	1	17	114	2	-1
CLARK	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
CLAY	60	125	1	49	131	1	5
CLOUD	45	97	2	36	86	3	-11
COFFEY	20	115	1	20	53	6	-54
COMANCHE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
COWLEY	85	58	5	85	47	7	-19
CRAWFORD	107	47	7	103	52	6	10
DECATUR	17	123	1	17	113	2	-9
DICKINSON	66	70	4	75	105	2	50
DONIPHAN	40	90	2	38	83	3	-7
DOUGLAS	78	27	8	78	24	8	-12
EDWARDS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
ELK	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
ELLIS	86	67	4	89	88	3	32
ELLSWORTH	15	84	3	15	81	3	-4
FINNEY	161	83	3	176	70	4	-16
FORD	196	117	1	216	113	2	-3
FRANKLIN	20	22	8	20	15	8	-31
GEARY	225	85	3	239	101	2	20
GOVE	17	122	1	17	172	1	41
GRAHAM	17	69	4	17	122	1	77

[1] Children's Defense Fund. (2000). *Head Start FAQs.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 15, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childrensdefense.org/headstart_faq.html

[2] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2000, June 16). *HHS fact sheet: Improving Head Start: A success story.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 24, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2000pres/20000616.html

[3] Children's Defense Fund. (2000). *Head Start FAQs.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 15, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childrensdefense.org/headstart_faq.html

[4] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2000, June 16). *HHS fact sheet: Improving Head Start: A success story.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 24, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2000pres/20000616.html

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COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99			CURRENT YEAR - 2000			
	HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	52	110	2	52	147	1	34
GRAY	15	49	6	25	119	2	143
GREELEY	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
GREENWOOD	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HAMILTON	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HARPER	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
HARVEY	49	59	5	67	56	6	-5
HASKELL	10	100	2	12	69	4	-31
HODGEMAN	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
JACKSON	46	90	2	38	66	4	-26
JEFFERSON	34	57	5	37	66	4	17
JEWEL	18	175	1	17	116	2	-34
JOHNSON	230	49	6	243	35	8	-29
KEARNY	15	50	6	25	92	3	83
KINGMAN	33	83	3	24	65	5	-21
KIOWA	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LABETTE	90	74	4	88	64	5	-14
LANE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LEAVENWORTH	92	42	7	68	28	8	-32
LINCOLN	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
LINN	10	29	8	20	44	7	49
LOGAN	17	140	1	17	128	1	-8
LYON	80	48	7	100	51	6	6
MARION	45	93	2	45	99	2	7
MARSHALL	20	39	7	19	31	8	-21
MCPHERSON	60	65	5	60	98	2	50
MEADE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MIAMI	40	49	7	40	43	7	-12
MITCHELL	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MONTGOMERY	136	52	6	140	60	5	15
MORRIS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
MORTON	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
NEMAHA	36	74	4	38	96	2	30
NEOSHO	48	57	5	40	46	7	-21
NESS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
NORTON	27	87	3	27	117	2	34
OSAGE	20	30	8	20	31	8	7
OSBORNE	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
OTTAWA	15	88	2	15	69	4	-22

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99			CURRENT YEAR - 2000			
	HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	HEAD START SLOTS AVAILABLE	AVAILABLE SLOTS PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	18	86	3	18	59	6	-32
PHILLIPS	20	99	2	10	41	7	-59
POTTAWATOMIE	37	56	6	38	49	6	-13
PRATT	30	84	3	30	76	4	-10
RAWLINS	17	134	1	17	137	1	2
RENO	155	54	6	167	53	6	-2
REPUBLIC	17	71	4	17	61	5	-14
RICE	18	23	8	18	34	8	49
RILEY	150	44	7	150	64	5	44
ROOKS	0	0	10	0	0	10	0
RUSH	7	46	7	7	44	7	-6
RUSSELL	15	46	7	15	46	7	0
SALINE	153	57	6	217	89	3	57
SCOTT	12	285	1	12	75	4	-74
SEDGWICK	786	32	8	778	31	8	-3
SEWARD	70	33	8	70	42	7	26
SHAWNEE	456	70	4	521	66	4	-5
SHERIDAN	10	50	6	6	60	5	22
SHERMAN	34	74	4	34	85	3	15
SMITH	18	83	3	20	122	1	46
STAFFORD	30	113	2	17	56	6	-51
STANTON	10	54	6	12	131	1	141
STEVENS	10	33	8	12	41	7	25
SUMNER	75	110	2	75	71	4	-35
THOMAS	33	65	5	33	88	3	36
TREGO	5	82	4	6	61	5	-26
WABAUNSEE	19	82	3	15	75	4	-9
WALLACE	17	104	2	17	207	1	99
WASHINGTON	15	83	3	20	87	3	5
WICHITA	6	62	5	8	61	5	-1
WILSON	40	65	4	10	15	8	-76
WOODSON	10	52	6	40	162	1	210
WYANDOTTE	824	62	5	854	65	5	6
KANSAS	**6,113**	**49.3**		**6,353**	**53.1**		**7.7**

Head Start data are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Poverty estimates are created from U.S. Census estimates. Population data are estimated by the U.S. Census. Positive percentage changes indicate improvement.

An * indicates the Head Start Programs is new for this county in 1999 and calculation of percent change from base years is not possible.

CHILD CARE AVAILABILITY

Every day, 13 million children, including 6 million infants and toddlers, participate in child care in the United States. Millions more school-age children attend after-school and summer activities, and nearly 5 million children are left home alone after school each week while their parents work.[1] Clearly, child care is an important issue for the 21st century. Three fundamental issues often concern families seeking child care: availability, affordability and quality. The data presented here focus on child care availability, which is defined as the capacity of registered day-care homes, licensed day-care homes, group day-care homes, child-care centers and preschools per 100 children under age 13.

Child-care availability is of particular importance because more mothers are entering the workforce while their children are young. In 1999, the labor force included 72.2 percent of mothers. The labor force participation rate for unmarried mothers with children under 1 year old rose by 13 percentage points between 1994 and 1998 to 58.9 percent, where it remained in 1999.[2] Recent welfare reforms, combined with the abundant labor market, are likely to increase the number of parents entering the workforce and seeking quality child care.

A recent survey found that nine out of 10 adults polled say that finding affordable quality child care is difficult for most American families. Moreover, this lack of child-care options affects parents' productivity on the job. Fifty-two percent of those polled indicated that the difficulties of finding child care affected their ability to do their job, and 43 percent reported that a lack of affordable child care had prevented either them or their spouse from taking a job they wanted.[3]

Kansas' child-care capacity was 26.6 per 100 children in 1999, 0.2 percent higher than the base years (1995-1999). During 2000, child-care capacity in Kansas counties ranged from 0.7 per 100 children to 36 per 100 children. On the positive side, 17 counties had a child-care capacity of 30 or more per 100 children. In addition, 11 counties also improved their child-care capacity for 2000 by 15 percent or more compared to the base years.

The biggest increases were seen for Jewell (32 percent), Kingman (31 percent) and Ness (35 percent) counties. Conversely, 10 counties had a child-care capacity of 16 or less per 100 children. Ten counties lost ground in terms of their child-care capacity, with a reduction of 15 percent or more compared to the base years. The biggest decrease occurred in Chase County (29 percent).

[1] Children's Defense Fund. (2000, April). *Child care and early education basics.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 11, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childrensdefense.org/child care/cc_facts.html

[2] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics. (2000, June 15). *Employment characteristics of families in 1999.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/famee.nr0.htm

[3] Children's Defense Fund. *Polls indicate widespread support for increased investments in child care.* (2000). Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 11, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childrensdefense.org/child care/cc_polls.html

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	JUNE 2000 TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	JUNE 2000 CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	JUNE 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	711	26	4	680	25	4	-2
ANDERSON	176	12	10	206	14	10	17
ATCHISON	622	21	7	657	22	7	6
BARBER	213	21	7	192	20	8	-6
BARTON	1,320	24	5	1,270	24	5	-1
BOURBON	584	22	6	610	23	6	7
BROWN	559	26	4	470	22	6	-15
BUTLER	2,245	19	8	2,035	17	9	-11
CHASE	119	23	6	82	16	10	-29
CHAUTAUQUA	70	10	10	80	12	10	16
CHEROKEE	756	19	8	843	21	7	13
CHEYENNE	123	24	5	128	25	4	4
CLARK	121	30	3	140	35	1	17
CLAY	508	32	2	454	29	2	-8
CLOUD	612	38	1	544	35	1	-8
COFFEY	429	26	4	446	27	3	4
COMANCHE	95	28	3	76	24	5	-14
COWLEY	1,327	20	8	1,299	20	8	0
CRAWFORD	1,337	23	6	1,405	24	5	7
DECATUR	167	27	3	154	27	3	-3
DICKINSON	1,157	33	2	1,045	31	2	-8
DONIPHAN	270	20	8	316	23	6	17
DOUGLAS	4,361	31	2	4,459	31	2	0
EDWARDS	124	21	7	92	16	10	-22
ELK	39	8	10	34	7	10	-14
ELLIS	1,545	33	1	1,516	34	1	1
ELLSWORTH	283	30	3	296	32	2	8
FINNEY	1,533	17	9	1,788	19	9	12
FORD	1,554	25	5	1,583	25	5	0
FRANKLIN	1,154	24	6	952	19	9	-19
GEARY	1,351	24	5	1,327	25	4	5
GOVE	113	21	7	114	22	7	4
GRAHAM	161	29	3	143	27	3	-6

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99			JUNE 2000			
	TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	TOTAL CHILD CARE CAPACITY	CHILD CARE CAPACITY PER 100 CHILDREN	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	360	19	9	327	17	9	-10
GRAY	283	23	6	324	26	3	14
GREELEY	85	22	6	82	22	6	0
GREENWOOD	241	19	9	222	17	9	-6
HAMILTON	100	25	5	98	24	5	-3
HARPER	303	27	3	318	30	2	9
HARVEY	1,687	28	3	1,467	24	5	-13
HASKELL	178	20	8	188	21	7	5
HODGEMAN	60	14	10	70	16	10	17
JACKSON	636	28	3	545	24	5	-14
JEFFERSON	827	25	5	829	25	5	0
JEWELL	92	15	10	113	19	8	32
JOHNSON	27,977	36	1	27,969	35	1	-4
KEARNY	163	17	9	172	18	9	7
KINGMAN	234	15	10	308	19	8	31
KIOWA	193	33	2	140	26	4	-23
LABETTE	1,043	25	4	961	23	6	-6
LANE	103	24	5	92	23	6	-6
LEAVENWORTH	2,181	17	9	2,218	17	9	1
LINCOLN	149	29	3	130	26	4	-10
LINN	215	14	10	274	17	9	25
LOGAN	123	23	6	123	24	5	5
LYON	1,388	21	7	1,400	21	7	2
MARION	568	26	4	593	28	3	7
MARSHALL	289	14	10	261	13	10	-7
MCPHERSON	1,215	23	6	1,105	21	7	-9
MEADE	150	18	9	134	16	10	-10
MIAMI	1,196	24	5	1,469	29	2	20
MITCHELL	382	32	2	302	26	4	-20
MONTGOMERY	1,510	23	6	1,459	23	6	-1
MORRIS	208	19	8	204	19	8	1
MORTON	176	25	4	156	22	7	-13
NEMAHA	520	26	4	499	25	4	-2
NEOSHO	966	32	2	787	27	3	-17
NESS	104	16	9	134	22	7	35
NORTON	258	31	2	212	26	3	-15
OSAGE	850	27	4	812	26	4	-5
OSBORNE	176	23	6	174	23	6	3
OTTAWA	275	26	4	271	26	4	-1
PAWNEE	446	37	1	323	28	3	-25
PHILLIPS	323	31	2	323	33	1	4
POTTAWATOMI	862	23	6	863	22	7	-3
PRATT	448	27	4	443	27	3	2
RAWLINS	116	20	7	104	20	8	-3
RENO	2,767	25	4	2,851	26	4	3
REPUBLIC	293	31	2	297	32	2	5
RICE	331	18	9	338	18	9	5
RILEY	2,209	20	7	2,104	20	7	0
ROOKS	321	31	2	352	35	1	14
RUSH	178	34	1	160	32	2	-6
RUSSELL	343	29	3	393	35	1	19
SALINE	3,448	36	1	3,388	36	1	0
SCOTT	342	33	1	290	29	2	-14
SEDGWICK	21,705	25	5	23,189	26	4	5
SEWARD	833	18	9	677	14	10	-20
SHAWNEE	10,788	36	1	10,425	35	1	-3
SHERIDAN	103	21	7	100	21	7	1
SHERMAN	298	24	5	322	27	3	11
SMITH	211	31	2	197	30	2	-3
STAFFORD	187	20	8	181	20	8	0
STANTON	110	21	7	117	23	6	10
STEVENS	187	16	9	224	19	8	19
SUMNER	1,047	20	8	1,203	23	6	15
THOMAS	534	34	1	440	29	2	-14
TREGO	116	19	8	114	20	8	4
WABAUNSEE	224	18	9	244	20	8	11
WALLACE	70	20	8	63	18	9	-9
WASHINGTON	391	36	1	372	36	1	-2
WICHITA	97	16	10	104	18	9	13
WILSON	379	21	7	405	23	6	8
WOODSON	62	9	10	66	10	10	10
WYANDOTTE	6,505	21	7	7,172	24	5	12
KANSAS	**129,478**	**26.5**		**130,222**	**26.6**		**0.2**

Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Child-care capacity includes the number of Registered Day Care Homes, Licensed Day Care Homes, Group Day Care Homes, Child-care Centers and Preschools as of June 1995 through 1999 for base years and current year June 2000. Population data represent the number of children under age 13 and estimated from the U.S. Census.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

This indicator, like several others tracked by *Kansas KIDS COUNT*, is based on the premise that education is one of the keys for youth to become productive and economically secure adults. The percentage of youth pursuing post-secondary education or training is tracked as a proxy measure that indicates educational achievement and possible future well-being, particularly economic well-being. Post-secondary education includes an array of diverse educational experiences, including a wide range of programs offered by colleges and universities. For example, a community college may offer vocational training or the first two years of college-level training.

A university typically offers a full undergraduate course of study leading to a bachelor's degree as well as professional and graduate programs leading to advanced degrees. Vocational and technical institutions offer training programs designed to prepare students for specific careers.

Post-secondary education and training provides young adults with many benefits and advantages. Among these is a higher earning power than adults who do not pursue post-secondary education or training. The average 1998 incomes for full-time, year-round workers with a bachelor's degree were $51,405 for men and $36,559 for women. In comparison, those with a high school diploma on average earned an annual income of $31,477 for men and $22,780 for women.[1] In fact, a study by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention also demonstrates that education pays off in terms of health-related outcomes. Death rates are highest among persons with less education. In 1998, the age-adjusted death rate for chronic diseases among adults with fewer than 12 years of education was more than twice the rate among those with more than 12 years of education. The death rate for injuries among the least educated was three times the rate for the most educated adults.[2]

According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, 63 percent of 1999 high school graduates were enrolled in colleges or universities in the fall. The college enrollment rate was somewhat lower than a year earlier and was well below its October 1997 record high of 67 percent.[3] Based on the data provided by school districts' annual survey of graduates five to six months post-graduation, in 1999 Kansas experienced a 2 percent increase in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, when compared to the base years period (1994-1998).[4] The following 11 counties are applauded for achieving rates of 90 percent or higher: Gove, Gray, Hamilton, Hodgeman, Lincoln, Meade, Ness, Russell, Sheridan, Stanton and Wichita. Notable improvements of 10 percent or more were observed in 16 counties; Douglas and Geary counties led the way with increases of 25 and 21 percent, respectively. Downward trends occurred in 40 Kansas counties, with 14 of them dropping in the percent of graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training by 10 percent or more. The largest losses were in Rooks (-23 percent) and Cherokee (-21 percent) counties.

[1] National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. (2000). *Digest of education statistics, 1999*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2000/digest99/chapter5.html

[2] MacKay, A. P., Fingerhut, L. A., Duran, C. R., (2000). *Health, United States, 2000 With Adolescent Health Chartbook*. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf

[3] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2000, May 17). *College enrollment and work activity of 1999 high school graduates*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved November 1, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/hsgec.nr0.htm.

[4] Note: These data are primarily reflective of seniors' responses to a questionnaire given prior to graduation. Among the more populous counties, where the graduating classes tend to be larger, the data submitted by the school districts may not be as accurate as data from smaller counties. In the larger counties, school district personnel are less likely to be able to successfully follow up with the entire graduating class, to confirm whether or not they actually followed through on their questionnaire responses.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	DECILE RANK	NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	136	79	6	150	75	8	-5
ANDERSON	63	74	8	81	74	8	0
ATCHISON	120	76	7	112	72	9	-6
BARBER	59	80	5	87	85	3	7
BARTON	273	81	4	242	80	5	-1
BOURBON	132	80	5	138	83	4	4
BROWN	99	77	7	112	84	3	9
BUTLER	599	80	5	645	79	5	-2
CHASE	24	74	8	32	80	5	9
CHAUTAUQUA	27	71	9	29	64	10	-9
CHEROKEE	145	60	10	143	47	10	-21
CHEYENNE	43	90	1	55	83	4	-8
CLARK	32	90	1	37	82	4	-9
CLAY	98	80	5	95	71	9	-12
CLOUD	90	80	5	119	81	4	2
COFFEY	101	74	8	117	79	6	6
COMANCHE	28	88	1	14	78	6	-12
COWLEY	308	76	7	349	81	5	5
CRAWFORD	269	73	8	291	75	8	2
DECATUR	42	82	4	56	89	2	9
DICKINSON	196	71	9	215	71	9	0
DONIPHAN	82	71	9	93	81	5	14
DOUGLAS	453	66	10	699	83	4	25
EDWARDS	38	86	2	43	74	8	-14
ELK	38	73	9	39	63	10	-13
ELLIS	218	80	5	274	80	5	1
ELLSWORTH	74	71	9	57	68	10	-4
FINNEY	267	78	6	232	69	9	-11
FORD	241	78	6	249	69	9	-11
FRANKLIN	189	69	10	221	76	7	10
GEARY	143	58	10	179	70	9	21
GOVE	48	88	1	45	92	1	4
GRAHAM	38	84	3	36	77	7	-9

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COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	75	83	3	82	75	7	-9
GRAY	69	86	2	81	91	1	6
GREELEY	18	87	1	34	89	2	2
GREENWOOD	66	74	8	53	69	10	-7
HAMILTON	25	88	1	30	97	1	10
HARPER	62	75	7	69	77	7	2
HARVEY	289	80	5	268	71	9	-11
HASKELL	50	87	2	48	84	3	-3
HODGEMAN	26	86	2	28	90	1	5
JACKSON	102	69	10	116	66	10	-4
JEFFERSON	191	69	10	251	77	7	12
JEWELL	44	85	2	51	85	3	0
JOHNSON	3,338	83	4	3,712	81	4	-2
KEARNY	51	72	9	54	77	7	8
KINGMAN	87	83	4	86	78	6	-5
KIOWA	41	82	4	47	78	6	-4
LABETTE	219	79	6	235	79	6	0
LANE	34	85	2	26	87	2	2
LEAVENWORTH	492	72	9	564	77	7	7
LINCOLN	37	77	6	61	94	1	21
LINN	89	66	10	80	66	10	0
LOGAN	46	82	4	53	84	3	2
LYON	259	71	9	311	73	9	3
MARION	122	76	7	161	85	3	11
MARSHALL	147	79	6	188	82	4	4
MCPHERSON	266	78	6	305	84	3	7
MEADE	31	79	6	34	92	1	16
MIAMI	192	74	8	227	79	6	6
MITCHELL	79	79	5	85	77	7	-3
MONTGOMERY	272	73	8	284	78	6	7
MORRIS	56	76	7	46	68	10	-11
MORTON	38	77	7	50	85	3	10
NEMAHA	116	80	5	135	82	4	3
NEOSHO	156	79	6	178	81	4	3
NESS	54	88	1	61	90	2	2
NORTON	61	81	4	69	81	4	1
OSAGE	139	66	10	152	72	9	8
OSBORNE	27	88	1	27	75	8	-15

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 AVERAGE NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	BASE YEARS - 1994-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 PERCENT IN SCHOOL/ TRAINING	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	66	79	6	64	70	9	-12
PAWNEE	72	76	7	89	89	2	17
PHILLIPS	69	80	5	78	86	2	8
POTTAWATOMIE	184	73	8	215	73	8	0
PRATT	100	85	3	117	84	3	0
RAWLINS	37	84	3	46	77	7	-9
RENO	449	72	9	487	78	6	8
REPUBLIC	68	85	3	73	81	4	-4
RICE	96	79	6	99	77	7	-2
RILEY	401	86	2	383	88	2	3
ROOKS	75	82	4	52	63	10	-23
RUSH	43	84	3	50	83	4	0
RUSSELL	70	81	4	95	90	1	12
SALINE	362	75	7	406	79	5	7
SCOTT	63	87	2	63	75	8	-13
SEDGWICK	2,619	74	7	2,808	78	6	5
SEWARD	169	74	8	173	73	8	-1
SHAWNEE	1,009	67	10	1,127	71	9	5
SHERIDAN	37	90	1	39	91	1	1
SHERMAN	54	74	8	50	68	10	-7
SMITH	58	92	1	65	89	2	-3
STAFFORD	60	83	4	67	74	8	-10
STANTON	28	83	3	35	95	1	14
STEVENS	63	82	4	60	79	5	-4
SUMNER	217	70	10	267	78	6	11
THOMAS	95	86	2	95	89	2	4
TREGO	42	84	3	39	87	2	3
WABAUNSEE	64	75	7	69	77	7	2
WALLACE	25	86	2	18	78	6	-9
WASHINGTON	106	85	2	90	79	5	-7
WICHITA	36	83	3	43	93	1	12
WILSON	98	72	9	103	80	5	11
WOODSON	37	83	3	33	87	2	5
WYANDOTTE	983	73	9	1,039	74	8	2
KANSAS	**20,136**	**76.1**		**22,165**	**77.7**		**2.0**

Data are provided by the Kansas Department of Education. Information is obtained from the annual survey of graduates conducted by the school districts five to six months after graduation. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DEGREE

Primary and secondary education are generally regarded as providing children and youth with a foundation of basic skills necessary for being a productive citizen in the United States. Most people acknowledge the importance of a high school diploma or its equivalent. What may be less well known are the serious consequences faced by mothers, particularly single mothers, who were unable to finish high school. Education and economic well-being are closely associated; a family with wavering economic security is more likely to experience a multitude of negative outcomes and maternal risk factors. For example,

- Among pregnant women, higher levels of education are associated with more timely receipt of prenatal care, better nutritional levels, higher weight gain, lower smoking rates and better birth outcomes.[1] Mothers with fewer than 12 years of education were 10 times more likely to smoke during pregnancy when compared to mothers with 16 years or more of education in 1996.[2]
- Infant mortality decreases as the mother's level of education increases; this disparity is greater for white mothers than for mothers in other racial and ethnic groups. In 1997, infant mortality among non-Hispanic white mothers with less than 12 years of education was more than double that for infants whose mothers had 13 or more years of education. The disparity in infant mortality by mother's education was 29 percent for non-Hispanic black mothers and 12 percent for Hispanic mothers.
- Children from lower income families are less likely to have health insurance coverage.[3] Compared to insured children, uninsured children are up to eight times less likely to have a regular source of care, four times more likely to delay seeking care, nearly three times less likely to have seen a provider in the last year and five times more likely to use the emergency room as a regular place of care.[4]

In 1999, 18.7 percent (7,219) of all births were to mothers with less than a high school degree. Across Kansas, the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree ranged from a low of 0 percent in Sheridan County to a stunning high of 53 percent in Greeley County. Significant improvements (25 percent or more reduction) were seen among 11 counties in Kansas, while 24 counties experienced a 25 percent or higher increase in births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Because of the risks cited above, these communities should explore ways to prevent teen pregnancy and promote education.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	30	20	8	44	24	9	17
ANDERSON	19	18	7	22	21	8	17
ATCHISON	31	15	5	33	17	6	14
BARBER	7	15	6	10	19	7	20
BARTON	96	24	9	98	26	9	5
BOURBON	35	20	8	38	20	7	0
BROWN	22	16	6	25	20	7	21
BUTLER	92	12	4	98	13	4	4
CHASE	9	16	6	8	19	7	17
CHAUTAUQUA	8	18	7	8	24	9	37
CHEROKEE	65	23	8	59	20	7	-10
CHEYENNE	3	14	5	4	18	6	30
CLARK	2	7	1	3	10	3	51
CLAY	15	14	5	9	10	2	-32
CLOUD	12	11	3	14	13	4	25
COFFEY	13	13	4	11	11	3	-13
COMANCHE	3	10	2	2	13	4	24
COWLEY	91	21	8	115	23	8	5
CRAWFORD	83	17	7	106	20	7	21
DECATUR	3	7	1	3	13	4	93
DICKINSON	35	16	6	33	15	5	-9
DONIPHAN	17	20	8	16	17	5	-14
DOUGLAS	95	9	2	112	9	2	4
EDWARDS	7	16	6	6	17	5	3
ELK	6	18	7	3	14	4	-25
ELLIS	22	5	1	26	7	2	33
ELLSWORTH	7	12	4	3	4	1	-64
FINNEY	399	44	10	418	47	10	7
FORD	266	44	10	316	47	10	7
FRANKLIN	57	19	7	67	18	6	-3
GEARY	98	14	5	80	14	4	-2
GOVE	4	11	3	6	19	7	76
GRAHAM	3	11	3	1	4	1	-66

[1] Mathews, T. J. & Ventura, S. J. (1997). Birth and fertility rates by educational attainment: United States, 1994. *Monthly Vital Statistics Report, 45*(10(S)). Retrieved October 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/mv45_10s.pdf

[2] Pamuk, E., Makuc, D., Heck, K., Reuben, C., & Lochner, K. (1998). *Socioeconomic status and health chartbook. Health, United States, 1998.* Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus/chrt98.pdf

[3] Ibid.

[4] American College of Physicians, American Society of Internal Medicine. *No health insurance? It's enough to make you sick - Scientific research linking the lack of health coverage to poor health.* (2000). Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved November 1, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.acp.org/uninsured/fack-exec.htm

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVERAGE NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	PERCENT OF BIRTHS TO MOTHERS W/O HS DEGREE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	68	42	10	78	49	10	15
GRAY	34	34	10	36	43	10	28
GREELEY	4	29	9	9	53	10	84
GREENWOOD	16	20	8	16	21	8	2
HAMILTON	7	25	9	17	36	10	46
HARPER	14	18	7	15	21	8	19
HARVEY	65	16	6	82	18	6	13
HASKELL	29	35	10	25	30	9	-13
HODGEMAN	2	11	3	4	15	5	41
JACKSON	20	12	4	18	12	3	-4
JEFFERSON	25	12	4	26	11	3	-6
JEWELL	3	6	1	2	6	1	-6
JOHNSON	303	6	1	354	5	1	-5
KEARNY	23	41	10	38	41	10	1
KINGMAN	15	15	5	17	18	6	18
KIOWA	7	19	8	5	13	4	-33
LABETTE	67	25	9	59	21	8	-16
LANE	1	5	1	2	10	3	103
LEAVENWORTH	106	13	4	101	12	3	-7
LINCOLN	3	11	3	7	19	7	74
LINN	16	18	7	25	23	8	24
LOGAN	2	8	2	6	13	4	64
LYON	126	28	9	154	30	9	7
MARION	22	15	5	25	17	6	15
MARSHALL	14	12	4	16	14	5	16
MCPHERSON	57	16	6	60	18	6	13
MEADE	16	27	9	23	36	9	32
MIAMI	44	12	3	44	11	3	-5
MITCHELL	8	9	2	3	5	1	-45
MONTGOMERY	105	24	9	118	26	9	6
MORRIS	12	16	6	9	15	5	-4
MORTON	14	24	9	19	33	9	36
NEMAHA	9	5	1	14	9	2	67
NEOSHO	38	19	7	29	17	6	-9
NESS	4	12	4	2	7	1	-44
NORTON	4	8	2	2	5	1	-41
OSAGE	24	12	4	26	14	4	10
OSBORNE	5	12	3	4	9	2	-22
OTTAWA	7	12	3	12	17	5	39
PAWNEE	13	16	6	15	18	6	11
PHILLIPS	6	14	5	7	12	3	-13
POTTAWATOMIE	18	6	1	23	9	2	44
PRATT	16	13	4	14	13	4	2
RAWLINS	3	9	2	1	5	1	-44
RENO	169	21	8	173	21	8	-2
REPUBLIC	7	14	5	5	11	3	-17
RICE	19	15	5	18	16	5	5
RILEY	68	7	1	59	6	1	-17
ROOKS	5	7	2	5	8	2	7
RUSH	3	10	2	6	16	5	59
RUSSELL	12	16	6	12	19	7	20
SALINE	137	17	7	147	21	8	20
SCOTT	16	27	9	16	21	8	-22
SEDGWICK	1,448	21	8	1,613	21	8	4
SEWARD	207	47	10	232	45	10	-3
SHAWNEE	430	18	7	428	18	6	0
SHERIDAN	1	5	1	0	0	1	-100
SHERMAN	16	18	7	18	18	7	0
SMITH	5	13	5	2	8	2	-36
STAFFORD	13	24	9	13	20	7	-15
STANTON	13	33	10	15	38	10	15
STEVENS	27	35	10	41	47	10	34
SUMNER	54	16	6	57	18	6	9
THOMAS	14	11	3	9	9	2	-15
TREGO	4	10	2	3	10	2	-8
WABAUNSEE	4	9	2	12	14	4	58
WALLACE	4	13	4	2	11	3	-18
WASHINGTON	4	7	2	12	16	5	123
WICHITA	11	26	9	11	26	9	-1
WILSON	28	23	8	38	29	9	29
WOODSON	5	12	3	4	11	3	-1
WYANDOTTE	806	30	10	909	33	9	8
KANSAS	**6,580**	**18.1**		**7,219**	**18.7**		**3.5**

Data provided by Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Decile Ranks are scored so that "1" indicates the most positive outcome and "10" indicates the most negative outcome. Negative percent change represents improvement.

STUDENTS GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL

High school graduation is a fundamental stepping stone to a more secure economic future. A high school diploma or its equivalent shows that an individual has acquired the basic skills for reading, writing and math to function in the labor market. It provides the opportunity for entry-level jobs or a path to higher education. Studies show that those who complete high school are better off than those who do not.

Labor force participation (i.e., being employed or unemployed) and employment rates are generally higher for those with higher levels of education.[1] Among adults 25 years and older, labor force participation is 80 percent for those with a bachelor's degree, 65 percent for individuals with a high school degree and 43 percent for those with less than a high school education.[2] Of the 524,000 youth who had dropped out of high school during the federal fiscal year ended October 1999, 26.1 percent were unemployed, which is 8.6 percentage points higher than the unemployment rate for the year's high school graduates who did not go on to college.[3]

Earnings potential is also impacted by high school completion. In 1998, the median annual income for men without a high school diploma or its equivalent was $23,958. The median annual income for men with a high school diploma or its equivalent was 24 percent higher at $31,477. While women's wages significantly lag behind men's, the advantage of education is still apparent. The 1998 median annual income for women without a high school diploma was $16,482, compared to $22,780 for women with a high school diploma.[4]

In 1998, 85 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds across the nation had completed high school or its equivalent. During 1999, Kansas fell short of this national graduation rate with a state rate of 81.8 percent. Still, a full 73 percent (77 counties) of Kansas counties achieved graduation rates of 85 percent or higher. Close attention should be paid to Finney County, which had a state low of 58 percent in 1999. Notably, seven counties (Cheyenne, Hodgeman, Rawlins, Sherman, Smith, Stanton and Wallace) celebrated graduation rates of 100 percent. Changes in graduation rates (i.e., comparing 1999 to base years 1996-1998) were small for most counties in Kansas. Only three counties decreased their graduation rates by 10 percent or more (Comanche, Hamilton and Stevens). Four counties can be proud to have achieved a 10 percent or higher increase in their rates (Cherokee, Ford, Morton and Sherman).

	BASE YEAR - 1996-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRADUATES	GRADUATION PERCENT	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF GRADUATES	GRADUATION PERCENT	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	165	76	10	200	79	9	5
ANDERSON	92	88	6	109	89	6	0
ATCHISON	152	80	9	156	80	9	0
BARBER	77	95	2	102	94	3	-2
BARTON	342	79	9	301	85	8	7
BOURBON	169	80	9	167	81	9	1
BROWN	135	90	4	133	95	2	5
BUTLER	772	86	7	818	87	6	1
CHASE	35	80	9	40	83	8	4
CHAUTAUQUA	39	84	7	45	87	7	3
CHEROKEE	238	79	9	303	87	6	11
CHEYENNE	48	95	3	66	100	1	6
CLARK	37	97	1	45	98	1	1
CLAY	124	91	4	134	88	6	-3
CLOUD	114	90	4	147	90	5	-1
COFFEY	148	92	4	149	90	5	-2
COMANCHE	32	94	3	18	78	9	-17
COWLEY	406	80	9	433	77	10	-4
CRAWFORD	371	80	9	390	77	10	-3
DECATUR	49	97	1	63	97	2	0
DICKINSON	281	84	8	302	87	7	3
DONIPHAN	116	89	5	115	91	5	2
DOUGLAS	706	83	8	846	83	8	0
EDWARDS	44	81	8	58	87	7	6
ELK	53	86	7	62	90	5	4
ELLIS	275	90	5	341	91	4	1
ELLSWORTH	107	96	2	84	91	4	-4
FINNEY	322	57	10	335	58	10	1
FORD	321	72	10	361	78	9	10
FRANKLIN	282	86	7	292	87	7	1
GEARY	240	66	10	255	69	10	5
GOVE	57	98	1	49	98	1	0
GRAHAM	45	91	4	47	90	5	-1

[1] National Center for Education Statistics. (2000, April). Employment of young adults by educational attainment. *Indicator of the Month*. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2000/2000007.pdf

[2] National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. (2000). *Digest of education statistics, 1999*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2000/digest99/chapter5.html

[3] U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2000, May 17). *College enrollment and work activity of 1999 high school graduates*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://stats.bls.gov/news.release/hsgec.nr0.htm

[4] National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education. (2000). *Digest of education statistics, 1999*. Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2000/digest99/chapter5.html

COUNTY	BASE YEAR - 1996-98 AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRADUATES	BASE YEAR - 1996-98 GRADUATION PERCENT	BASE YEAR - 1996-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF GRADUATES	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 GRADUATION PERCENT	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	94	82	8	109	80	9	-3
GRAY	80	93	3	89	96	2	2
GREELEY	22	94	3	38	90	5	-4
GREENWOOD	93	89	6	77	84	8	-5
HAMILTON	32	98	1	31	89	6	-10
HARPER	80	85	7	90	83	8	-1
HARVEY	365	83	8	376	85	7	3
HASKELL	53	90	5	57	97	2	8
HODGEMAN	33	97	1	31	100	1	3
JACKSON	157	90	4	176	92	4	1
JEFFERSON	302	88	6	326	89	6	2
JEWELL	58	97	1	60	98	1	2
JOHNSON	4,150	88	6	4,589	91	5	3
KEARNY	71	83	8	70	91	4	9
KINGMAN	103	86	7	110	91	4	6
KIOWA	45	94	3	60	90	6	-5
LABETTE	282	82	8	299	81	9	-1
LANE	41	95	2	30	88	6	-7
LEAVENWORTH	709	85	7	729	87	7	3
LINCOLN	46	92	4	65	93	3	1
LINN	132	89	6	122	87	6	-2
LOGAN	52	95	3	63	95	2	1
LYON	363	80	9	428	78	9	-2
MARION	167	90	5	190	92	4	2
MARSHALL	191	89	6	228	92	4	4
MCPHERSON	353	88	6	365	93	3	5
MEADE	41	88	6	37	93	3	5
MIAMI	259	83	8	289	87	7	5
MITCHELL	100	94	3	111	97	2	3
MONTGOMERY	377	75	10	364	76	10	1
MORRIS	76	90	5	68	91	5	1
MORTON	47	82	8	59	94	3	15
NEMAHA	144	95	2	164	94	3	-1
NEOSHO	198	81	9	219	82	8	1
NESS	62	96	2	68	92	4	-4
NORTON	75	91	4	85	96	2	4
OSAGE	215	89	5	212	86	7	-4
OSBORNE	28	94	3	36	97	2	3
OTTAWA	86	93	3	92	95	3	3
PAWNEE	95	86	7	100	81	9	-5
PHILLIPS	87	96	2	91	97	2	1
POTTAWATOMIE	259	91	4	294	92	4	1
PRATT	119	86	7	139	90	5	5
RAWLINS	51	96	1	60	100	1	4
RENO	626	79	9	621	78	9	-1
REPUBLIC	83	92	4	90	92	4	0
RICE	132	89	5	128	87	7	-3
RILEY	470	88	6	435	86	7	-3
ROOKS	94	95	2	82	92	4	-3
RUSH	52	97	1	60	92	3	-5
RUSSELL	83	84	8	105	85	8	2
SALINE	492	78	10	511	82	8	5
SCOTT	77	89	5	84	94	3	6
SEDGWICK	3,450	70	10	3,600	72	10	2
SEWARD	237	73	10	236	74	10	2
SHAWNEE	1,513	75	10	1,594	77	10	3
SHERIDAN	41	96	1	43	93	3	-3
SHERMAN	73	90	5	73	100	1	11
SMITH	64	96	2	73	100	1	4
STAFFORD	76	89	6	90	85	8	-4
STANTON	30	96	2	37	100	1	4
STEVENS	75	85	7	76	74	10	-13
SUMNER	311	90	5	343	88	6	-2
THOMAS	113	88	6	107	96	2	9
TREGO	52	95	2	45	90	5	-5
WABAUNSEE	95	92	3	90	87	7	-6
WALLACE	30	98	1	23	100	1	2
WASHINGTON	125	95	2	114	95	2	0
WICHITA	43	86	7	46	84	8	-3
WILSON	144	80	9	129	81	9	1
WOODSON	47	90	4	38	88	6	-2
WYANDOTTE	1,346	67	10	1,408	63	10	-7
KANSAS	**26,763**	**80.8**		**28,543**	**81.8**		**1.3**

Data are from Kansas State Board of Education. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the sum of graduates and dropouts from grades nine through 12. Positive percent changes indicate improvement. Migration into or out of the school district between ninth and 12th grade may account for a proportion of increases or decreases in some rates. Currently, no statewide data are available that would allow for an accurate determination of the influence of migration.

OUT-OF-HOME PLACEMENT

Most people agree that the best place for children to grow up is in families. However, when children are endangered by child abuse and neglect, then out-of-home placements can become necessary. The data presented here relates specifically to children and youth, ages 18 and younger, in state custody and living outside the home. Nationally, 560,000 children were living in foster care on Sept. 30, 1998. During the same year, 286,000 children entered foster care, and 248,000 children exited foster care. Although many children quickly move in and out of foster care, others stay for many years. The national average stay in 1998 was 33 months, with more than half of the children in foster care staying in care longer than 18 months. Of the children in care, 122,000 of them were waiting to be adopted. The most common types of out-of-home care are family foster care, kinship care, therapeutic (or treatment) foster care and residential group care.[1]

In June 2000, Kansas had 5,534 children and youth living in out-of-home placements, amounting to a slight decrease of 1.7 percent in out-of-home placements in comparison with the previous five years. The highest out-of-home placement rates were observed in Allen, Bourbon, Hamilton and Reno counties. Compared with the base years period, eight counties experienced increases of more than 100 percent, the largest three of these being Rawlins, Hamilton and Rooks counties. Still, the general trend in Kansas was a decline in placement rates, which was observed in 57 percent of Kansas counties.

[1] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. (2000, April). *The AFCARS report: Interim estimates for fiscal year 1998.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved October 30, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/cb/stats/tarreport/rpt04003/ar0400.htm

	BASE YEARS - JUNE 1995-JUNE 1999			CURRENT YEAR - JUNE 2000			
COUNTY	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	60	15	10	54	14	10	-7
ANDERSON	14	7	6	15	7	7	5
ATCHISON	53	12	9	32	7	7	-40
BARBER	11	8	7	10	8	8	-1
BARTON	68	9	9	93	13	10	43
BOURBON	32	8	8	52	14	10	69
BROWN	25	8	8	25	8	8	3
BUTLER	69	4	3	67	4	4	-6
CHASE	6	8	7	4	6	5	-24
CHAUTAUQUA	5	5	4	3	3	3	-33
CHEROKEE	46	8	8	43	7	7	-5
CHEYENNE	2	3	2	2	3	2	-3
CLARK	0	1	1	0	0	1	-100
CLAY	8	3	3	5	2	2	-31
CLOUD	21	9	9	6	3	3	-70
COFFEY	6	2	2	9	4	4	54
COMANCHE	2	5	4	2	4	5	-1
COWLEY	55	6	6	60	6	6	11
CRAWFORD	127	15	10	112	13	10	-10
DECATUR	4	4	4	5	6	6	43
DICKINSON	11	2	2	20	4	4	84
DONIPHAN	9	4	4	9	4	4	1
DOUGLAS	210	11	9	138	7	7	-37
EDWARDS	4	4	3	8	10	9	132
ELK	9	12	10	5	7	6	-41
ELLIS	39	6	6	37	6	6	-1
ELLSWORTH	6	4	3	5	4	3	-16
FINNEY	160	13	10	81	6	6	-53
FORD	69	8	8	65	7	7	-7
FRANKLIN	61	9	9	78	11	9	24
GEARY	63	8	8	65	10	9	13
GOVE	2	3	2	2	3	2	-13
GRAHAM	6	8	8	8	11	9	37

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - JUNE 1995-JUNE 1999			CURRENT YEAR - JUNE 2000			
	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER IN PLACEMENT	PLACEMENT RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	13	5	4	7	3	2	-44
GRAY	4	2	2	6	3	3	65
GREELEY	2	4	3	1	2	2	-51
GREENWOOD	15	8	7	14	7	7	-1
HAMILTON	3	5	5	10	16	10	201
HARPER	8	5	5	17	11	9	118
HARVEY	65	7	7	60	7	7	-8
HASKELL	1	1	1	1	1	1	-30
HODGEMAN	1	1	1	0	0	1	-100
JACKSON	19	6	5	17	5	5	-9
JEFFERSON	45	9	9	40	8	8	-11
JEWELL	3	3	2	0	0	1	-100
JOHNSON	235	2	2	250	2	2	0
KEARNY	13	9	9	4	3	3	-68
KINGMAN	11	5	4	7	3	3	-38
KIOWA	6	7	7	1	1	1	-83
LABETTE	53	9	8	41	7	7	-21
LANE	2	3	3	4	8	8	147
LEAVENWORTH	109	6	6	104	5	5	-6
LINCOLN	5	6	6	3	4	4	-33
LINN	6	3	2	5	2	2	-25
LOGAN	6	7	7	5	7	7	-5
LYON	67	7	7	46	5	5	-31
MARION	15	5	4	25	8	8	67
MARSHALL	13	4	4	16	6	5	27
MCPHERSON	31	4	3	33	4	4	5
MEADE	5	4	3	9	8	8	89
MIAMI	24	3	3	29	4	4	14
MITCHELL	11	6	6	5	3	3	-55
MONTGOMERY	96	10	9	86	9	8	-8
MORRIS	10	6	6	10	6	6	2
MORTON	4	4	3	1	1	1	-73
NEMAHA	5	2	1	12	4	4	137
NEOSHO	45	11	9	35	8	8	-21
NESS	2	3	2	0	0	1	-100
NORTON	6	5	4	10	8	8	84
OSAGE	25	5	5	46	10	9	85
OSBORNE	2	2	2	5	5	5	142
OTTAWA	11	8	7	9	6	6	-21
PAWNEE	21	12	10	23	13	10	13
PHILLIPS	8	5	5	5	4	3	-32
POTTAWATOMIE	10	2	1	11	2	2	7
PRATT	13	5	5	14	6	6	11
RAWLINS	1	1	1	5	7	7	850
RENO	214	14	10	301	19	10	40
REPUBLIC	9	7	6	3	2	2	-65
RICE	33	12	10	32	13	9	3
RILEY	74	5	5	53	4	4	-25
ROOKS	3	2	1	7	5	5	183
RUSH	0	1	1	0	0	1	-100
RUSSELL	11	6	6	12	7	7	15
SALINE	96	7	7	89	7	6	-6
SCOTT	13	8	8	8	5	5	-37
SEDGWICK	1,327	11	9	1,592	13	10	16
SEWARD	49	8	8	36	6	5	-28
SHAWNEE	549	13	10	543	13	10	-1
SHERIDAN	0	1	1	1	1	1	161
SHERMAN	9	5	5	10	6	6	17
SMITH	6	5	5	2	2	2	-63
STAFFORD	10	8	7	17	13	10	76
STANTON	2	3	2	3	4	4	59
STEVENS	8	5	4	3	2	1	-65
SUMNER	98	13	10	79	10	9	-19
THOMAS	13	6	5	19	9	8	57
TREGO	5	6	6	8	10	9	66
WABAUNSEE	10	6	6	6	3	3	-41
WALLACE	3	5	4	1	2	2	-61
WASHINGTON	3	2	1	5	3	3	85
WICHITA	8	9	9	3	4	4	-58
WILSON	22	8	8	32	12	9	48
WOODSON	7	7	7	6	6	6	-12
WYANDOTTE	679	16	10	511	12	9	-23
KANSAS	**5,570**	**8.0**		**5,534**	**7.9**		**-1.7**

Placement data are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimated from the U.S. Census. An asterisk represents counties in which no children were placed out of the home for that year. Rates are calculated per 1,000 children age 18 and younger.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATHS

Across the nation, about 19,000 teens 15 to 19 years old died in 1997. Nearly 14,000 died from injury-related causes in contrast to approximately 5,000 deaths related to natural causes.[1] Teen violent deaths refer to those deaths among youth ages, 15 to 19, related to accidents, suicides and homicides. Violent teen deaths have been declining on a national level since 1990. In 1997, the national rate was 58 violent teen deaths per 100,000 teens and ranged from a low of 26 per 100,000 teens 15 to 19 in Vermont to a high of 90 per 100,000 in Arkansas and Mississippi. Kansas ranked 37th with 69 violent teen deaths per 100,000 teens in 1997.[2]

Of the injury deaths in 1998, motor vehicle traffic-related injuries and injuries related to firearms were the two leading causes among youth 10 to 19. These accounted for 55 percent of all deaths and 75 percent of all injury deaths. Motor vehicle traffic-related and firearms-related death rates varied with population density. Adolescents living in the most densely populated counties had higher death rates associated with interpersonal violence (firearms, homicide), while adolescents living in rural counties had higher rates of motor vehicle fatalities.[3]

Sadly, in 1999 Kansas experienced 118 violent teen deaths, a rate of 55.3 per 100,000 youth ages 15 to 19. The state continued a trend of steady improvement with a reduction in violent teen deaths of 25 percent, when comparing 1999 with the previous five-year period. Still, 35 percent of Kansas counties (37) had a teen violent death rate at or above the 1997 national rate of 58 per 100,000 youth 15 to 19. The majority of violent teen deaths occurred in four of the most populous counties in Kansas. On the positive side, three of the four counties experienced a decrease in the teen violent death rate when comparing 1999 with the base years period: Johnson (-16 percent), Sedgwick (-64 percent), Shawnee (31 percent) and Wyandotte (-24 percent).

	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
COUNTY	AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	.4	34.0	2	0	+	+	+
ANDERSON	1.0	168.1	9	0	+	+	
ATCHISON	1.0	60.8	4	1	57.5	7	-5
BARBER	.6	179.1	9	1	292.4	10	63
BARTON	1.2	59.0	3	1	47.8	7	-19
BOURBON	1.2	96.2	6	1	75.9	7	-21
BROWN	.6	75.8	5	1	118.6	8	57
BUTLER	2.0	43.5	3	3	58.3	7	34
CHASE	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
CHAUTAUQUA	.4	144.5	8	1	342.5	10	137
CHEROKEE	1.6	87.5	6	1	51.3	7	-41
CHEYENNE	1.0	525.8	10	0	+	+	+
CLARK	.2	132.8	8	0	+	+	+
CLAY	.4	67.4	4	1	162.6	9	141
CLOUD	.4	46.5	3	0	+	+	+
COFFEY	.4	59.2	4	0	+	+	+
COMANCHE	.0	+	+	1	746.3	10	*
COWLEY	1.8	60.7	4	2	64.5	7	6
CRAWFORD	1.2	40.5	2	3	95.0	8	135
DECATUR	.4	227.8	10	0	+	+	+
DICKINSON	.8	57.2	3	2	135.5	9	137
DONIPHAN	.8	102.1	7	1	113.5	8	11
DOUGLAS	3.8	37.6	2	2	18.0	6	-52
EDWARDS	.6	296.2	10	2	990.1	10	234
ELK	.2	101.7	7	0	+	+	+
ELLIS	.8	33.3	2	1	39.5	7	18
ELLSWORTH	.4	94.8	6	0	+	+	+
FINNEY	2.0	65.9	4	1	29.8	6	-55
FORD	3.0	125.1	8	3	115.2	8	-8
FRANKLIN	.8	43.3	3	2	98.0	8	126
GEARY	2.8	137.2	8	2	102.7	8	-25
GOVE	.2	97.3	7	0	+	+	+
GRAHAM	.2	98.6	7	0	+	+	+
GRANT	.6	91.7	6	0	+	+	+

[1] MacKay, A. P., Fingerhut, L. A., Duran, C. R., (2000). *Health, United States, 2000 with adolescent health chartbook*. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf

[2] Annie E. Casey Foundation. (2000). *KIDS COUNT Data Book: 2000*. Baltimore, MD: Author.

[3] MacKay, A. P., Fingerhut, L. A., Duran, C. R., (2000). *Health, United States, 2000 with adolescent health chartbook*. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf

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COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1994-98			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
	AVERAGE NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF VIOLENT TEEN DEATHS	TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRAY	.6	133.2	8	0	+	+	+
GREELEY	.2	204.1	9	0	+	+	+
GREENWOOD	.8	135.5	8	0	+	+	+
HAMILTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
HARPER	1.0	256.4	10	1	246.3	9	-4
HARVEY	2.0	73.7	5	2	69.2	7	-6
HASKELL	.4	120.9	8	0	+	+	+
HODGEMAN	.4	278.2	10	0	+	+	+
JACKSON	1.0	109.2	7	0	+	+	+
JEFFERSON	.4	31.6	2	2	145.1	9	360
JEWELL	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
JOHNSON	11.6	41.4	2	11	34.6	6	-16
KEARNY	.8	241.5	10	1	286.5	10	19
KINGMAN	1.2	194.9	9	2	302.1	10	55
KIOWA	.2	72.3	5	0	+	+	+
LABETTE	1.2	63.2	4	1	49.8	7	-21
LANE	.2	152.9	9	0	+	+	+
LEAVENWORTH	2.0	40.8	2	0	.0	6	-100
LINCOLN	.2	95.1	6	1	456.6	10	380
LINN	.6	91.3	6	1	135.9	9	49
LOGAN	.4	188.3	9	1	465.1	10	147
LYON	1.0	32.1	2	2	61.6	7	92
MARION	.8	78.6	5	1	93.9	8	20
MARSHALL	.6	91.4	6	1	144.9	9	59
MCPHERSON	1.6	73.1	5	0	.0	6	-100
MEADE	.4	141.3	8	0	+	+	+
MIAMI	1.8	89.3	6	3	132.8	9	49
MITCHELL	.6	94.9	6	0	+	+	+
MONTGOMERY	2.0	68.5	4	1	32.8	6	-52
MORRIS	.4	97.0	7	0	+	+	+
MORTON	.4	143.3	8	0	+	+	+
NEMAHA	.6	84.0	6	0	+	+	+
NEOSHO	1.0	81.5	5	3	233.6	9	187
NESS	.2	103.6	7	0	+	+	+
NORTON	1.0	241.1	10	0	+	+	+
OSAGE	1.6	130.8	8	1	75.3	7	-42
OSBORNE	.6	209.6	10	0	+	+	+
OTTAWA	.2	53.9	3	0	+	+	+
PAWNEE	.4	72.6	5	1	183.8	9	153
PHILLIPS	.2	51.8	3	0	+	+	+
POTTAWATOMIE	.6	42.8	2	2	127.3	8	197
PRATT	.8	102.2	7	0	+	+	+
RAWLINS	.4	196.7	9	0	+	+	+
RENO	3.6	76.4	5	1	19.8	6	-74
REPUBLIC	.2	54.2	3	1	265.3	10	389
RICE	.8	106.9	7	0	+	+	+
RILEY	2.0	26.9	1	2	26.6	6	-1
ROOKS	.2	53.4	3	0	+	+	+
RUSH	.4	212.1	10	0	+	+	+
RUSSELL	.2	43.3	2	1	209.2	9	383
SALINE	2.6	69.4	4	1	25.2	6	-64
SCOTT	.8	190.9	9	0	+	+	+
SEDGWICK	25.0	80.4	5	10	29.1	6	-64
SEWARD	2.4	149.6	9	0	+	+	+
SHAWNEE	8.6	71.0	4	12	92.8	8	31
SHERIDAN	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
SHERMAN	.4	75.2	5	0	+	+	+
SMITH	.2	71.2	4	0	+	+	+
STAFFORD	.2	62.4	4	0	+	+	+
STANTON	.2	119.9	7	0	+	+	+
STEVENS	.2	49.9	3	0	+	+	+
SUMNER	2.0	97.4	7	3	136.2	9	40
THOMAS	.2	24.2	1	0	+	+	+
TREGO	.2	92.8	6	1	465.1	10	401
WABAUNSEE	.2	41.3	2	0	+	+	+
WALLACE	.4	253.2	10	0	+	+	+
WASHINGTON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WICHITA	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WILSON	1.2	159.2	9	0	+	+	+
WOODSON	.0	+	+	0	+	+	+
WYANDOTTE	18.8	157.3	9	15	120.1	8	-24
KANSAS	**146.2**	**73.9**		**118**	**55.3**		**-25.0**

Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The base years consist of the average of years 1994 through 1998. Teen violent death rates represent the number of violent deaths per 100,000 children ages 15-19. Negative change scores indicate improvement. As a result of rounding, counties with identical rates may receive different decile ranks.

+ Rates are not calculated for counties with too few children for meaningful interpretation.
* Zero events in the base years prevent calculation of percent change scores.

REPORTED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

State laws across the nation require professionals and allow laypersons to report suspected child abuse or neglect to Child Protective Services (CPS). In 1998, nearly 3 million reports of child maltreatment were received in the United States. More than half the reports (53.1 percent) came from professionals such as teachers, social workers and police officers, while the other half (46.7 percent) came from family, neighbors and anonymous individuals. Of the 3 million reports, approximately one-third were screened out (i.e., CPS did not take further action on behalf of the child), and two-thirds were screened in as warranting investigation or assessment. Reasons why referrals are screened out include: the referral did not meet the statutory definition of maltreatment, the referral did not contain sufficient information upon which to proceed, and/or the referral did not pertain to the service population of the agency. The national rate of screened-out referrals was 13.7 per 1,000 children in 1998; the screening out rate for Kansas was 12.8 per 1,000 children. The national rate of screened-in referrals was 26.3 per 1,000 children, while the rate for Kansas was 26.5 per 1,000 children.[1]

Statewide, there were 41,186 reports of child maltreatment during fiscal year 1999, amounting to a reported abuse and neglect rate of 59.9 per 1,000 children. Kansas experienced a 26.6 percent increase in reports of child maltreatment when comparing 1999 to the base period. On the high end, 11 counties had reported abuse and neglect rates above 90 per 1,000 children. The three highest were Labette (109 per 1,000), Sherman (106.9 per 1,000) and Wallace (124.3 per 1,000) counties. Notably, all but nine counties showed an increase in the reported abuse and neglect rate in comparison with the base years. Nineteen counties increased the rate of reported abuse and neglect by more than 100 percent. Four counties celebrated a reported abuse and neglect rate below 20 percent: Clark (18.6 per 1,000), Gray (17.5 per 1,000), Hodgeman (19.5 per 1,000) and Wabaunsee (10.3) counties.

[1] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families. (2000). *Child Maltreatment 1998: Reports From the States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System*. Washington, DC: Author.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	173	43.7	6	339	87.5	9	100
ANDERSON	68	32.0	4	163	75.9	8	137
ATCHISON	127	27.5	3	234	50.9	4	85
BARBER	32	22.3	2	50	36.6	2	64
BARTON	375	48.8	7	688	91.9	10	89
BOURBON	166	42.4	6	322	84.1	9	99
BROWN	57	18.7	1	150	50.0	4	167
BUTLER	665	39.2	5	861	49.1	4	25
CHASE	22	29.4	4	35	48.3	4	64
CHAUTAUQUA	73	72.0	10	54	54.2	5	-25
CHEROKEE	378	63.1	9	452	76.4	8	21
CHEYENNE	18	23.9	3	35	45.3	3	90
CLARK	12	20.2	2	11	18.6	1	-8
CLAY	137	57.7	9	184	80.2	8	39
CLOUD	130	55.9	9	210	94.1	10	69
COFFEY	125	52.0	8	166	68.7	7	32
COMANCHE	14	28.4	3	18	39.0	2	37
COWLEY	652	66.3	9	832	86.6	9	31
CRAWFORD	727	84.5	10	744	87.7	9	4
DECATUR	30	34.3	4	43	52.1	5	52
DICKINSON	256	49.9	8	311	61.6	6	23
DONIPHAN	39	19.5	2	69	34.4	2	76
DOUGLAS	1,065	54.7	8	1,114	55.2	6	1
EDWARDS	52	60.0	9	43	52.8	5	-12
ELK	57	76.6	10	64	85.6	9	12
ELLIS	251	37.5	5	415	63.5	7	69
ELLSWORTH	82	57.2	9	97	69.3	8	21
FINNEY	377	30.5	4	719	55.2	5	81
FORD	437	50.5	8	539	61.2	6	21
FRANKLIN	290	42.3	6	457	64.9	7	54
GEARY	628	83.7	10	628	90.9	9	9
GOVE	21	26.0	3	20	26.0	1	0
GRAHAM	26	31.8	4	41	53.2	5	67

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-98 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 REPORTED ABUSE & NEGLECT RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	58	21.6	2	151	55.3	6	156
GRAY	26	14.5	1	31	17.5	1	20
GREELEY	8	7.8	1	16	32.8	2	319
GREENWOOD	88	45.1	7	166	86.1	9	91
HAMILTON	23	19.4	2	24	39.9	2	106
HARPER	62	38.6	5	103	66.9	7	73
HARVEY	237	27.2	3	425	48.4	4	78
HASKELL	26	20.5	2	39	30.1	1	47
HODGEMAN	9	13.8	1	12	19.5	1	41
JACKSON	145	43.3	6	157	46.6	3	8
JEFFERSON	218	45.2	7	285	58.5	6	30
JEWELL	30	32.0	4	40	46.1	3	44
JOHNSON	2,376	21.9	2	3,128	27.3	1	25
KEARNY	36	19.7	2	43	31.5	2	60
KINGMAN	81	34.8	4	85	36.3	2	4
KIOWA	42	46.5	7	43	51.3	4	10
LABETTE	584	95.8	10	656	109.0	10	14
LANE	10	16.8	1	15	26.6	1	59
LEAVENWORTH	662	35.3	4	917	48.2	4	37
LINCOLN	26	31.6	4	55	69.1	7	118
LINN	104	44.6	6	158	65.7	7	47
LOGAN	21	26.5	3	31	41.2	3	56
LYON	484	52.3	8	925	101.1	10	93
MARION	135	42.3	6	200	63.9	7	51
MARSHALL	75	25.5	3	125	43.9	3	72
MCPHERSON	332	45.4	7	338	46.0	3	1
MEADE	29	23.7	3	27	22.5	1	-5
MIAMI	352	49.0	7	446	59.8	6	22
MITCHELL	37	19.9	2	89	48.8	4	146
MONTGOMERY	709	74.5	10	821	88.5	9	19
MORRIS	107	67.4	10	153	99.0	10	47
MORTON	14	14.0	1	50	47.7	4	241
NEMAHA	70	24.0	3	133	46.6	3	94
NEOSHO	279	64.7	9	391	92.5	10	43
NESS	9	7.0	1	29	32.4	2	367
NORTON	70	55.2	9	66	54.1	5	-2
OSAGE	239	51.9	8	391	84.1	8	62
OSBORNE	45	39.3	5	57	52.1	5	32
OTTAWA	62	41.2	6	134	87.9	9	114
PAWNEE	78	42.0	6	153	85.9	9	105
PHILLIPS	58	38.5	5	77	53.1	5	38
POTTAWATOMIE	200	37.5	5	259	46.5	3	24
PRATT	111	44.8	7	148	61.4	6	37
RAWLINS	22	20.6	2	25	33.6	2	63
RENO	900	57.1	9	1,279	80.9	8	41
REPUBLIC	58	41.2	6	71	52.2	5	27
RICE	177	65.4	9	191	73.0	8	12
RILEY	550	37.9	5	588	42.8	3	13
ROOKS	76	49.9	8	111	75.5	8	51
RUSH	37	48.6	7	48	65.9	7	36
RUSSELL	88	51.1	8	148	89.8	9	76
SALINE	791	58.8	9	1,392	105.1	10	79
SCOTT	55	36.1	4	109	71.5	8	98
SEDGWICK	5,909	49.1	8	6,596	53.2	5	8
SEWARD	308	48.5	7	403	62.3	6	28
SHAWNEE	3,299	76.3	10	4,115	95.1	10	25
SHERIDAN	25	33.4	4	16	21.9	1	-35
SHERMAN	88	50.7	8	180	106.9	10	111
SMITH	39	37.4	5	58	57.9	6	55
STAFFORD	63	46.7	7	62	47.6	3	2
STANTON	12	12.4	1	36	51.9	4	318
STEVENS	25	15.3	1	60	35.7	2	134
SUMNER	373	47.7	7	444	56.6	6	18
THOMAS	100	43.1	6	146	66.2	7	54
TREGO	24	27.2	3	47	57.0	6	110
WABAUNSEE	67	37.8	5	18	10.3	1	-73
WALLACE	28	41.0	6	63	124.3	10	203
WASHINGTON	39	23.7	2	101	63.2	7	167
WICHITA	14	16.1	1	26	32.5	2	102
WILSON	204	76.8	10	173	65.5	7	-15
WOODSON	36	37.8	5	48	51.1	4	35
WYANDOTTE	3,378	78.1	10	3,417	80.2	8	3
KANSAS	**32,702**	**47.3**		**41,186**	**59.9**		**26.6**

Rates are per 1,000 children under age 18. Abuse and neglect data are provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau. Negative percent change indicates improvement.

SUBSTANTIATED CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

When referrals to the local child welfare agency (i.e., Child Protective Services - CPS) are determined to meet that state's criteria for child maltreatment, the agency conducts an investigation or assessment. For the nation, in 1998 slightly fewer than one-third (29.2 percent) of investigations resulted in a disposition of either "substantiated" or "indicated" child maltreatment. More than half of investigations (57.2 percent) resulted in a finding that child maltreatment was not substantiated. More than a tenth (13.6 percent) received some other disposition. Thus, of all the *referrals or reports* that came to the attention of CPS, fewer than one-fifth (19 percent) ultimately resulted in a "substantiated" or "indicated" finding of maltreatment.[1]

In 1998, an estimated 903,000 children were victims of maltreatment nationwide, making a victimization rate of 12.9 per 1,000 children. In comparison, Kansas had a victimization rate of 9.7 per 1,000 children in 1998 and 10.9 per 1,000 children in 1999. National statistics show that more than half (53.5 percent) of all victims suffered neglect, about one-quarter (22.7 percent) suffered physical abuse, and 11.5 percent were sexually abused. Victims of psychological abuse and medical neglect accounted for 6 percent or fewer each. Also, one-fourth (25.3 percent) of victims were reported to be victims of more than one type of maltreatment. The children most at risk of child maltreatment were those 0-3 years, and victimization rates declined as age increased.[2]

Kansas' substantiation rate increased by 12.3 percent from a rate of 9.7 per 1,000 children in 1998 to 10.9 per 1,000 children in 1999. Compared with the national substantiation rate of 12.9 per 1,000 children, approximately one-third (34.3 percent) of Kansas counties had a rate this high or higher. The highest substantiation rates were found in Labette (44.4 per 1,000) and Bourbon (34.8 per 1,000) counties. Among the most populous counties, the 1999 substantiation rate showed a general upward trend compared with the base years period. Johnson County increased by 21.7 percent, Sedgwick County by 15.2 percent, Shawnee County by 14.3 percent, and Wyandotte County increased by 11.3 percent. Douglas County was an exception to this trend with a decrease of 6.3 percent. On the positive side, more than one-quarter of Kansas counties (26.6 percent) showed a substantiation rate less than five per 1,000 children.

	BASE YEAR 1998			CURRENT YEAR - 1999			
COUNTY	NUMBER OF CONFIRMED SUBSTANTIATED	CONFIRMED & SUBSTANTIATED RATE	DECILE RANK	NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES	CONFIRMED & SUBSTANTIATED RATE	DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	54	13.8	8	69	17.8	9	27.8
ANDERSON	40	18.7	9	32	14.9	8	-20.0
ATCHISON	9	2.0	2	12	2.6	2	33.3
BARBER	9	6.4	5	2	1.5	2	-77.8
BARTON	34	4.5	4	57	7.6	5	67.6
BOURBON	116	29.7	10	133	34.8	10	14.7
BROWN	4	1.3	1	3	1.0	1	-25.0
BUTLER	116	6.7	5	135	7.7	5	16.4
CHASE	9	12.0	8	4	5.5	4	-55.6
CHAUTAUQUA	18	17.8	9	21	21.1	9	16.7
CHEROKEE	164	27.5	10	167	28.2	10	1.8
CHEYENNE	29	38.4	10	11	14.2	7	-62.1
CLARK	1	1.7	2	1	1.7	2	.0
CLAY	29	12.4	8	35	15.3	8	20.7
CLOUD	28	12.4	8	57	25.5	10	103.6
COFFEY	8	3.3	3	7	2.9	3	-12.5
COMANCHE	1	2.1	2	4	8.7	5	300.0
COWLEY	155	16.0	9	138	14.4	8	-11.0
CRAWFORD	164	19.3	9	201	23.7	10	22.6
DECATUR	0	.0	1	0	.0	1	.
DICKINSON	72	14.2	8	74	14.7	8	2.8
DONIPHAN	3	1.5	2	2	1.0	1	-33.3
DOUGLAS	271	13.6	8	254	12.6	7	-6.3
EDWARDS	7	8.6	6	9	11.0	6	28.6
ELK	5	6.6	5	14	18.7	9	180.0
ELLIS	51	7.6	6	63	9.6	6	23.5
ELLSWORTH	20	14.1	8	15	10.7	6	-25.0
FINNEY	44	3.5	3	70	5.4	4	59.1
FORD	65	7.4	5	59	6.7	4	-9.2
FRANKLIN	41	5.9	5	47	6.7	4	14.6
GEARY	56	7.9	6	100	14.5	8	78.6
GOVE	8	10.2	7	3	3.9	3	-62.5
GRAHAM	4	5.0	4	6	7.8	5	50.0

[1] U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families. (2000). *Child maltreatment 1998: Reports from the states to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System.* Washington, DC: Author.

[2] Ibid.

COUNTY	BASE YEAR 1998 NUMBER OF CONFIRMED SUBSTANTIATED	BASE YEAR 1998 CONFIRMED & SUBSTANTIATED RATE	BASE YEAR 1998 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 NUMBER OF CONFIRMED CASES	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 CONFIRMED & SUBSTANTIATED RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 1999 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	4	1.4	2	1	.4	1	-75.0
GRAY	0	.0	1	1	.6	1	.
GREELEY	1	2.0	2	0	.0	1	-100.0
GREENWOOD	18	9.1	7	28	14.5	8	55.6
HAMILTON	0	.0	1	0	.0	1	.
HARPER	14	8.9	7	21	13.6	7	50.0
HARVEY	74	8.4	6	83	9.4	6	12.2
HASKELL	3	2.3	3	2	1.5	2	-33.3
HODGEMAN	0	.0	1	1	1.6	2	.
JACKSON	30	8.9	6	24	7.1	5	-20.0
JEFFERSON	71	14.4	9	65	13.4	7	-8.5
JEWELL	8	8.9	6	22	25.3	10	175.0
JOHNSON	437	3.9	4	532	4.6	3	21.7
KEARNY	6	4.4	4	7	5.1	3	16.7
KINGMAN	5	2.1	2	13	5.6	4	160.0
KIOWA	17	19.6	9	13	15.5	8	-23.5
LABETTE	253	41.8	10	267	44.4	10	5.5
LANE	3	5.0	4	8	14.2	7	166.7
LEAVENWORTH	160	8.4	6	148	7.8	5	-7.5
LINCOLN	7	8.7	6	8	10.1	6	14.3
LINN	24	10.1	7	16	6.7	4	-33.3
LOGAN	11	14.3	9	7	9.3	6	-36.4
LYON	56	6.1	5	60	6.6	4	7.1
MARION	36	11.4	7	37	11.8	7	2.8
MARSHALL	10	3.5	3	5	1.8	2	-50.0
MCPHERSON	20	2.7	3	33	4.5	3	65.0
MEADE	1	.8	1	1	.8	1	.0
MIAMI	61	8.4	6	60	8.0	5	-1.6
MITCHELL	4	2.2	3	8	4.4	3	100.0
MONTGOMERY	312	33.2	10	303	32.7	10	-2.9
MORRIS	10	6.5	5	26	16.8	9	160.0
MORTON	1	1.0	1	1	1.0	1	.0
NEMAHA	21	7.3	5	26	9.1	5	23.8
NEOSHO	144	33.8	10	126	29.8	10	-12.5
NESS	0	.0	1	1	1.1	2	.
NORTON	13	10.3	7	4	3.3	3	-69.2
OSAGE	26	5.6	4	33	7.1	5	26.9
OSBORNE	5	4.4	4	13	11.9	7	160.0
OTTAWA	33	21.5	10	34	22.3	10	3.0
PAWNEE	3	1.7	2	20	11.2	6	566.7
PHILLIPS	13	8.8	6	15	10.3	6	15.4
POTTAWATOMIE	66	12.0	8	68	12.2	7	3.0
PRATT	24	9.7	7	14	5.8	4	-41.7
RAWLINS	3	3.8	4	1	1.3	2	-66.7
RENO	176	11.2	7	210	13.3	7	19.3
REPUBLIC	8	5.7	4	7	5.2	3	-12.5
RICE	10	3.7	3	16	6.1	4	60.0
RILEY	105	7.6	6	116	8.4	5	10.5
ROOKS	10	6.7	5	17	11.6	7	70.0
RUSH	4	5.4	4	12	16.5	9	200.0
RUSSELL	33	19.7	10	17	10.3	6	-48.5
SALINE	190	14.3	9	222	16.8	9	16.8
SCOTT	16	10.4	7	27	17.7	9	68.8
SEDGWICK	1,212	9.8	7	1,396	11.3	6	15.2
SEWARD	20	3.1	3	19	2.9	3	-5.0
SHAWNEE	546	12.6	8	624	14.4	8	14.3
SHERIDAN	1	1.3	2	9	12.3	7	800.0
SHERMAN	28	16.5	9	36	21.4	9	28.6
SMITH	2	2.0	2	3	3.0	3	50.0
STAFFORD	23	17.5	9	20	15.4	8	-13.0
STANTON	2	2.8	3	2	2.9	2	.0
STEVENS	0	.0	1	0	.0	1	.
SUMNER	78	9.9	7	81	10.3	6	3.8
THOMAS	33	14.7	9	37	16.8	9	12.1
TREGO	6	7.1	5	5	6.1	4	-16.7
WABAUNSEE	3	1.7	2	2	1.1	2	-33.3
WALLACE	14	27.1	10	11	21.7	9	-21.4
WASHINGTON	5	3.1	3	11	6.9	4	120.0
WICHITA	1	1.2	1	2	2.5	2	100.0
WILSON	56	21.3	10	61	23.1	10	8.9
WOODSON	5	5.3	4	18	19.2	9	260.0
WYANDOTTE	547	12.7	8	609	14.3	8	11.3
KANSAS	**6,790**	**9.7**		**7,571**	**10.9**		**12.3**

Rates are per 1,000 children under age 18. Abuse and neglect data are provided by the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Population data are estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.

JUVENILE COURT FILINGS

Youth violence and crime can be seen as reflections of a community's safety and stability as well as parents', schools', and religious and community leaders' effectiveness at raising healthy, responsible teenagers. The measure presented here is the number of court filings per 1,000 children under the age of 18.[1] Juvenile court filings are used as a proxy measure for youth violence and crime in Kansas communities. Although juvenile arrest rates are typically used to measure youth violence and crime, especially at the national level, they are not currently available at a county level in Kansas.

On a national level, crime and violence by youth are declining.[2] In 1998, the serious violent juvenile crime offending rate (i.e., aggravated assault, rape, homicide and robbery) was 27 crimes per 1,000 juveniles ages 12 to 17, totaling 616,000 such crimes involving youth. This was the lowest rate recorded since the national victimization survey began in 1973 and represented a decline of over one-half from the 1993 high.[3] According to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, in 1998 law enforcement agencies reported 25,912 arrests (data was unavailable from three police departments, which include Topeka, Kansas City and Lenexa). The five leading reasons for arrest include theft (5,782), runaway (4,309), simple assault/battery (2,834), liquor violations (2,213) and narcotic drug violations (1,762).

Kansas reported 17,038 juvenile court filings in fiscal year 1999/2000. This represents a slight increase (1.4 percent) as compared to the base years period (1995-1999). The juvenile court filing rate for the state was 24.4 filings per 1,000 children and ranged from 0 to 72 filings per 1,000 children. The six highest filing rates were found in Chase (72), Geary (59), Greenwood (49), Neosho (60), Pratt (54) and Sherman (51) counties. Among the most populous counties, there were increases in Douglas (23 percent), Shawnee (1 percent), and Wyandotte (11 percent) counties; and reductions in Johnson (-4 percent) and Sedgwick (-14 percent) counties.

After experiencing a significant increase in juvenile crime and violence in the early 1990s, a good deal of attention has been given to prevention. After-school recreation programs have been particularly emphasized because violent youth crime peaks between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.[4] Other community interventions include citizen mobilization, situational prevention, comprehensive citizen intervention, mentoring, policing strategies, policy changes and mass media interventions. School interventions include structured playground activities, behavioral consultation, behavioral monitoring, metal detectors and school-wide reorganization.[5]

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[1] Note: When looking at juvenile filing rates among different counties, the deviant behavior of youth that leads to a juvenile court filing in one jurisdiction may not necessarily result in a court filing in another. A county's juvenile filing rate reflects a combination of it deviant behavior as well as the level of tolerance within the community.

[2] Children's Defense Fund. (2000, March). *Key facts on youth, crime, and violence.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 11, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childrensdefense.org/crime_keyfacts.html

[3] Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. (2000). *America's children: Key national indicators of well-being, 2000.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 20, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childstats.gov/ac2000

[4] Ibid.

[5] School and community interventions to prevent serious and violent offending. (1999, October). *Juvenile Justice Bulletin.* Retrieved November 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.ncjrs.org/html/ojjdp/jjbul99910-1/contents.html

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 FILING RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF FILINGS	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 FILING RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	130	33	9	152	39	9	20
ANDERSON	45	21	5	49	23	5	8
ATCHISON	129	28	8	168	37	8	30
BARBER	23	16	3	21	15	3	-3
BARTON	221	29	8	176	24	6	-18
BOURBON	107	27	8	128	33	8	22
BROWN	73	24	6	61	20	4	-15
BUTLER	321	19	4	329	19	3	-2
CHASE	26	35	9	52	72	10	107
CHAUTAUQUA	27	26	7	22	22	5	-16
CHEROKEE	85	14	3	78	13	2	-8
CHEYENNE	7	9	1	14	18	3	111
CLARK	16	27	7	17	29	7	5
CLAY	36	15	3	25	11	2	-29
CLOUD	94	40	10	90	40	9	0
COFFEY	42	17	3	44	18	3	5
COMANCHE	12	24	6	11	24	6	1
COWLEY	312	32	9	355	37	9	16
CRAWFORD	246	29	8	222	26	7	-8
DECATUR	21	24	7	22	27	7	10
DICKINSON	158	31	9	137	27	7	-12
DONIPHAN	35	18	4	45	22	5	27
DOUGLAS	454	23	6	584	29	7	23
EDWARDS	16	18	4	16	20	4	9
ELK	22	30	8	22	29	7	-3
ELLIS	125	19	4	143	22	5	18
ELLSWORTH	68	47	10	57	41	9	-13
FINNEY	273	22	6	215	17	3	-26
FORD	424	49	10	364	41	9	-16
FRANKLIN	179	26	7	168	24	6	-9
GEARY	375	48	10	405	59	10	22
GOVE	8	10	1	15	19	4	87
GRAHAM	22	27	7	18	23	6	-13

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 FILING RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF FILINGS	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 FILING RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	58	22	5	70	26	6	18
GRAY	39	22	6	22	12	2	-45
GREELEY	1	3	1	1	2	1	-25
GREENWOOD	59	30	9	95	49	10	62
HAMILTON	7	12	2	9	15	2	24
HARPER	38	24	6	35	23	5	-5
HARVEY	225	26	7	261	30	8	15
HASKELL	12	9	1	16	12	2	32
HODGEMAN	4	6	1	7	11	2	84
JACKSON	58	17	3	67	20	4	15
JEFFERSON	92	19	5	113	23	5	21
JEWELL	12	13	2	8	9	1	-27
JOHNSON	2,683	25	7	2,749	24	6	-4
KEARNY	46	33	9	54	40	9	19
KINGMAN	74	32	9	65	28	7	-13
KIOWA	19	21	5	14	17	3	-20
LABETTE	121	20	5	146	24	6	23
LANE	9	14	2	21	37	9	161
LEAVENWORTH	414	22	6	374	20	4	-11
LINCOLN	15	18	4	13	16	3	-11
LINN	65	28	8	72	30	8	6
LOGAN	18	23	6	15	20	4	-13
LYON	436	47	10	354	39	9	-18
MARION	55	17	3	75	24	6	39
MARSHALL	27	9	1	21	7	1	-21
MCPHERSON	97	13	2	143	19	4	47
MEADE	35	29	8	42	35	8	19
MIAMI	128	18	4	148	20	4	11
MITCHELL	34	18	4	34	19	3	2
MONTGOMERY	268	28	8	168	18	3	-35
MORRIS	43	27	7	71	46	10	69
MORTON	16	16	3	24	23	5	45
NEMAHA	28	10	1	55	19	4	99
NEOSHO	104	24	6	253	60	10	150
NESS	6	7	1	4	4	1	-32
NORTON	43	34	9	44	36	8	8
OSAGE	80	18	4	109	23	6	34
OSBORNE	12	11	1	6	5	1	-48

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVERAGE NUMBER OF FILINGS	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 FILING RATE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF FILINGS	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 FILING RATE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
OTTAWA	30	20	5	42	28	7	40
PAWNEE	69	37	10	53	30	8	-19
PHILLIPS	23	15	3	19	13	2	-13
POTTAWATOMIE	61	11	2	42	8	1	-34
PRATT	85	34	9	130	54	10	57
RAWLINS	14	17	3	6	8	1	-53
RENO	522	33	9	698	44	10	33
REPUBLIC	27	19	4	35	26	6	37
RICE	68	25	7	95	36	8	44
RILEY	186	13	2	206	15	3	18
ROOKS	27	18	4	31	21	4	18
RUSH	14	19	4	29	40	9	111
RUSSELL	45	26	7	69	42	10	60
SALINE	632	47	10	411	31	8	-34
SCOTT	35	23	6	41	27	7	17
SEDGWICK	1,585	13	2	1,415	11	2	-14
SEWARD	329	52	10	286	44	10	-15
SHAWNEE	1,097	25	7	1,107	26	6	1
SHERIDAN	1	1	1	0	0	1	-100
SHERMAN	76	43	10	86	51	10	17
SMITH	14	13	2	8	8	1	-39
STAFFORD	27	20	5	15	12	2	-43
STANTON	22	30	8	19	27	7	-8
STEVENS	36	22	6	35	21	4	-4
SUMNER	160	21	5	175	22	5	8
THOMAS	45	19	5	33	15	2	-22
TREGO	34	38	10	30	36	8	-5
WABAUNSEE	25	14	2	48	27	7	93
WALLACE	7	13	2	11	22	5	69
WASHINGTON	21	12	2	34	21	5	71
WICHITA	14	16	3	4	5	1	-68
WILSON	73	28	8	103	39	9	41
WOODSON	20	21	5	12	13	2	-39
WYANDOTTE	1,572	36	9	1,707	40	9	11
KANSAS	**16,608**	**24.1**		**17,038**	**24.4**		**1.4**

Data are from the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. Juvenile court filing rates represent the number of court filings per 1,000 children under the age of 18. Negative change scores indicate improvement. Population data are estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau.

YOUTH WHO REPORT ALCOHOL USE IN PAST 30 DAYS

Alcohol is the most commonly used psychoactive substance during adolescence. Four out of five students (80 percent) have consumed alcohol (more than just a few sips) by the end of high school.[1] In 1999, about one-half of all high school students reported alcohol use in the previous 30 days (48 percent of female and 52 percent of male students).[2] Its use is associated with motor vehicle accidents, injuries and deaths; with problems in school and in the workplace; and with fighting and crime.[3]

Statewide, the 2000 data show that 36.9 percent of respondents reported using alcohol in the past 30 days, amounting to a 4.9 percent increase from the base years rate of 34.8 percent. The percent of youth in sixth, eighth, 10th and 12th grades who report alcohol use during the last 30 days varies from a low of 21 percent in Geary County to a high of 61 percent in Neosho County. The three counties of Logan, Nemaha and Ness celebrated the largest improvements across the state with percent changes of 28, 27 and 27 percent, respectively, as compared to the base years period. The data indicate the highest statewide use in the following counties: Anderson, Ellis, Grant, Haskell, Linn, Neosho, Pottawatomie, Rooks, Trego, Wabaunsee and Woodson counties. All of these counties should be concerned about these high-risk behaviors and seek strategies for preventing them.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1993-99 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1993-99 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1993-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	169	39	8	222	42	8	7
ANDERSON	.	.	.	131	46	10	.
ATCHISON	204	37	7	218	39	6	3
BARBER	45	37	7	.	.	.	.
BARTON	231	32	3	547	41	8	31
BOURBON	105	26	1	47	23	1	-12
BROWN	141	33	4	95	33	3	-1
BUTLER	398	34	4	629	34	4	2
CHASE	44	41	9	.	.	.	.
CHAUTAUQUA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
CHEROKEE	196	31	2	179	30	2	-4
CHEYENNE	29	29	2	39	28	2	-1
CLARK	37	35	5	.	.	.	.
CLAY	147	49	10	150	43	8	-12
CLOUD	122	39	8	140	36	5	-10
COFFEY	132	35	5	97	33	3	-6
COMANCHE	41	33	4	.	.	.	.
COWLEY	268	35	5	260	32	3	-7
CRAWFORD	313	37	7	494	42	8	11
DECATUR	54	31	3	67	35	4	11
DICKINSON	216	32	3	337	37	5	14
DONIPHAN	68	35	5	109	36	5	2
DOUGLAS	85	46	10	.	.	.	.
EDWARDS	43	39	8	.	.	.	.
ELK	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ELLIS	197	44	9	538	46	9	4
ELLSWORTH	.	.	.	165	40	7	.
FINNEY	386	31	3	378	29	2	-9
FORD	328	36	6	395	39	6	8
FRANKLIN	55	21	1	.	.	.	.
GEARY	276	25	1	250	21	1	-18
GOVE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GRAHAM	38	38	8	.	.	.	.

[1] Johnston, L. D., O'Malley, P. M., & Bachman, J G. (2000). *Monitoring of the future: National results on adolescent drug use: Overview of key findings, 1999.* National Institute on Drug Abuse, Bethesda, MD. Retrieved November 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://monitoringthefuture.org/pubs/keyfindings.pdf

[2] MacKay, A. P., Fingerhut, L. A., Duran, C. R., (2000). *Health, United States, 2000 with adolescent health chartbook.* Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf

[3] Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics. (2000). *America's children: Key national indicators of well-being, 2000.* Washington, DC: Author. Retrieved September 20, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.childstats.gov/ac2000

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COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	197	48	10	205	50	10	3
GRAY	40	38	7	.	.	.	.
GREELEY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GREENWOOD	92	35	5	75	39	6	10
HAMILTON	39	36	6	.	.	.	.
HARPER	99	39	8	.	.	.	.
HARVEY	221	26	1	333	28	2	11
HASKELL	.	.	.	50	45	9	.
HODGEMAN	.	.	.	40	40	7	.
JACKSON	160	43	9	171	39	6	-10
JEFFERSON	67	41	9	.	.	.	.
JEWELL	38	33	4	.	.	.	.
JOHNSON	810	38	7	2,514	34	3	-10
KEARNY	.	.	.	78	34	4	.
KINGMAN	107	43	9	147	43	9	0
KIOWA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LABETTE	251	39	8	151	35	4	-10
LANE	34	33	4	.	.	.	.
LEAVENWORTH	327	33	4	557	33	3	1
LINCOLN	.	.	.	44	35	4	.
LINN	66	36	6	66	46	9	27
LOGAN	52	36	6	34	26	1	-28
LYON	161	28	2	308	32	3	15
MCPHERSON	79	25	1	146	28	2	14
MARION	137	32	3	132	44	9	37
MARSHALL	66	27	1	45	22	1	-19
MEADE	.	.	.	44	38	6	.
MIAMI	234	37	7	.	.	.	.
MITCHELL	97	39	8	80	38	6	-4
MONTGOMERY	343	34	5	511	37	5	8
MORRIS	100	34	4	113	39	6	16
MORTON	73	54	10	.	.	.	.
NEMAHA	189	35	5	75	25	1	-27
NEOSHO	135	37	7	192	61	10	64
NESS	102	55	10	63	41	7	-27
NORTON	87	35	5	97	31	3	-10
OSAGE	195	32	3	272	41	7	26
OSBORNE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
OTTAWA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING RECENT ALCOHOL USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
PAWNEE	104	40	9	90	35	4	-11
PHILLIPS	41	26	1	92	30	2	15
POTTAWATOMIE	142	36	6	273	47	10	29
PRATT	124	32	3	131	37	5	14
RAWLINS	37	32	3	42	30	2	-7
RENO	324	30	2	592	31	2	1
REPUBLIC	55	33	4	.	.	.	.
RICE	91	28	2	124	27	1	-4
RILEY	185	31	2	444	35	5	14
ROOKS	92	50	10	156	57	10	14
RUSH	51	42	9	71	39	7	-7
RUSSELL	93	38	8	140	41	8	8
SALINE	576	35	5	724	41	7	19
SCOTT	103	34	4	93	37	5	7
SEDGWICK	1,516	36	6	2,038	39	7	9
SEWARD	356	32	3	.	.	.	.
SHAWNEE	1,083	36	6	1,368	40	7	13
SHERIDAN	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
SHERMAN	88	31	2	74	26	1	-18
SMITH	64	30	2	90	43	8	45
STAFFORD	36	24	1	.	.	.	.
STANTON	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
STEVENS	74	46	10	103	37	6	-19
SUMNER	245	37	7	180	46	9	22
THOMAS	86	31	2	105	34	4	10
TREGO	67	38	7	76	47	10	25
WABAUNSEE	75	40	9	136	45	9	13
WALLACE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
WASHINGTON	59	39	8	52	43	8	10
WICHITA	67	48	10	52	43	9	-9
WILSON	103	36	6	85	34	4	-6
WOODSON	81	42	9	97	51	10	22
WYANDOTTE	1,215	36	6	.	.	.	.
KANSAS	**14,423**	**34.8**		**19,890**	**36.9**		**4.9**

Data show the percentage of children who report any use of alcohol in the 30 days prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

YOUTH WHO REPORT BINGE DRINKING

This measure is the percentage of youth in sixth, eighth, 10th and 12th grades who reported drinking five or more consecutive alcoholic beverages during one occasion. A national report on an annual survey published by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) found that heavy drinking (defined by NIDA as having at least five drinks in a row in the previous two weeks) remained unchanged in 1999 from the 1998 figures with 31 percent of 12th-graders, 26 percent of 10th-graders and 15 percent of eighth-graders reporting heavy drinking.

Long-term trends for high school seniors showed a peak in 1981, when 41 percent reported heavy drinking. In 1993, the percentage of high school seniors reporting heavy drinking reached a low of 28 percent. Since 1995, the reports have shown this behavior has held fairly steady, ranging from 30 percent in 1995 to 32 percent in 1998.[1] Among high school students, males are more likely to drink heavily than are females[2], and the differences between them become more pronounced as they get older.[3] Heavy drinking also is more common among Hispanic and white high school students than among their black peers. For example, 12 percent of black seniors reported heavy drinking compared with 36 percent of whites and 29 percent of Hispanics.[4]

Consumption of alcohol, especially binge drinking, by teenagers raises significant concerns because of the serious risks and negative consequences involved. Binge drinking increases the risk for alcohol-related injury, especially for young people, who often combine alcohol with other high-risk activities such as impaired driving and unplanned, unprotected sex. Alcohol is also often involved in injury-related deaths, which are the leading causes of death among youth younger than 20 (i.e., motor vehicle crashes, homicides, suicides and drowning).[5]

Current year data reveal that Kansas has experienced a slight increase in the percent of youth in sixth, eighth, 10th and 12th grades who reported binge drinking. During 2000, 19.8 percent of these youth reported binge drinking, compared with 19 percent during the base years period (1995-1999), which amounts to an increase of 4.3 percent. Reports of binge drinking ranged from a low of 7 percent in Nemaha County to a high of 42 percent in Neosho County, where an increase of 105 percent also was observed. Such increases raise a red flag and indicate the need to pay closer attention. Other counties with large increases include Barton (31 percent), Linn (44 percent), Marion (43 percent), Osage (32 percent), Smith (71 percent) and Woodson (34 percent) counties. Notable improvements (greater than 20 percent change) in binge drinking rates were celebrated in Cheyenne (-23 percent), Clay (-22 percent), Logan (-28 percent), Nemaha (-55 percent), Ness (-29 percent), Norton (-22 percent), Stevens (-30 percent) and Wilson (-22 percent) counties.

[1] Johnston, L. D., O'Malley, P. M., & Bachman, J G. (2000). *Monitoring of the future: National results on adolescent drug use: Overview of key findings, 1999*. National Institute on Drug Abuse, Bethesda, MD. Retrieved November 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://monitoringthefuture.org/pubs/keyfindings.pdf.

[2] Ibid.

[3] MacKay, A. P., Fingerhut, L. A., Duran, C. R., (2000). *Health, United States, 2000 with adolescent health chartbook*. Hyattsville, MD: National Center for Health Statistics. Retrieved October 18, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf

[4] Johnston, L. D., O'Malley, P. M., & Bachman, J G. (2000). *Monitoring of the future: National results on adolescent drug use: Overview of key findings, 1999*. National Institute on Drug Abuse, Bethesda, MD. Retrieved November 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://monitoringthefuture.org/pubs/keyfindings.pdf

[5] National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information. (2000). *Binge drinking*. Retrieved November 8, 2000 from the World Wide Web: http://www.health.org/govpubs/phd627/binge.htm

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	97	23	8	126	24	8	5
ANDERSON	.	.	.	60	21	6	.
ATCHISON	108	20	6	113	20	5	1
BARBER	24	20	5	.	.	.	.
BARTON	133	18	4	316	24	8	31
BOURBON	52	13	1	27	13	1	3
BROWN	80	19	4	47	16	3	-12
BUTLER	217	18	4	326	18	4	-4
CHASE	22	20	7	.	.	.	.
CHAUTAUQUA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
CHEROKEE	110	17	3	104	17	4	-1
CHEYENNE	19	19	5	20	15	2	-23
CLARK	20	19	5	.	.	.	.
CLAY	92	30	10	83	24	8	-22
CLOUD	72	23	9	86	22	6	-6
COFFEY	71	19	5	61	21	5	10
COMANCHE	25	20	6	.	.	.	.
COWLEY	164	21	8	163	20	5	-5
CRAWFORD	194	23	9	288	24	9	4
DECATUR	34	20	6	43	23	7	12
DICKINSON	105	16	2	161	18	4	12
DONIPHAN	36	18	4	60	20	5	7
DOUGLAS	47	25	9	.	.	.	.
EDWARDS	24	21	7	.	.	.	.
ELK	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
ELLIS	104	23	9	288	25	9	5
ELLSWORTH	.	.	.	82	20	5	.
FINNEY	211	17	3	209	16	3	-8
FORD	185	20	7	218	21	6	5
FRANKLIN	30	11	1	.	.	.	.
GEARY	116	11	1	113	9	1	-12
GOVE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GRAHAM	26	26	10	.	.	.	.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVG. NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT OF YOUTH REPORTING BINGE DRINKING	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	127	31	10	132	32	10	3
GRAY	22	20	7	.	.	.	.
GREELEY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GREENWOOD	53	20	6	46	24	8	-17
HAMILTON	22	20	6	.	.	.	.
HARPER	54	21	8	.	.	.	.
HARVEY	112	13	1	177	15	2	16
HASKELL	.	.	.	33	30	10	.
HODGEMAN	.	.	.	23	23	8	.
JACKSON	87	24	9	84	19	5	-19
JEFFERSON	35	21	7	.	.	.	.
JEWELL	21	18	4	.	.	.	.
JOHNSON	412	19	5	1,340	18	4	-6
KEARNY	.	.	.	39	17	4	.
KINGMAN	65	26	10	73	21	6	-19
KIOWA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LABETTE	138	22	8	85	20	5	-8
LANE	16	16	2	.	.	.	.
LEAVENWORTH	173	17	3	272	16	3	-7
LINCOLN	.	.	.	20	16	2	.
LINN	37	20	6	42	29	10	44
LOGAN	31	21	7	20	15	2	-28
LYON	91	16	3	153	16	3	1
MCPHERSON	42	13	1	77	15	2	13
MARION	75	17	4	75	25	9	43
MARSHALL	33	14	1	29	14	1	5
MEADE	.	.	.	30	26	9	.
MIAMI	124	20	5	.	.	.	.
MITCHELL	56	23	8	54	25	9	13
MONTGOMERY	200	20	6	300	22	6	9
MORRIS	61	21	7	54	19	4	-9
MORTON	45	33	10	.	.	.	.
NEMAHA	87	16	2	21	7	1	-55
NEOSHO	75	21	7	132	42	10	105
NESS	60	33	10	36	23	8	-29
NORTON	46	19	4	45	15	2	-22
OSAGE	100	17	3	146	22	7	32
OSBORNE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
OTTAWA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
PAWNEE	54	21	7	55	22	6	5
PHILLIPS	24	15	2	50	17	3	8
POTTAWATOMIE	89	23	8	144	25	9	8
PRATT	70	18	4	81	23	7	26
RAWLINS	16	14	1	20	14	1	0
RENO	173	16	3	304	16	2	-3
REPUBLIC	29	17	3	.	.	.	.
RICE	51	15	2	62	13	1	-13
RILEY	90	15	2	220	18	4	16
ROOKS	54	29	10	95	35	10	18
RUSH	24	20	6	38	21	6	4
RUSSELL	55	23	8	79	23	7	4
SALINE	307	18	4	401	23	7	23
SCOTT	59	19	5	42	16	3	-15
SEDGWICK	808	19	5	1,151	22	7	15
SEWARD	188	17	3	.	.	.	.
SHAWNEE	573	19	5	730	21	6	14
SHERIDAN	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
SHERMAN	42	15	2	41	14	1	-5
SMITH	32	15	2	53	25	9	71
STAFFORD	17	11	1	.	.	.	.
STANTON	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
STEVENS	51	32	10	61	22	7	-30
SUMNER	142	22	8	99	25	9	15
THOMAS	45	16	3	47	15	2	-4
TREGO	27	15	2	27	17	3	14
WABAUNSEE	44	23	9	71	23	8	2
WALLACE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
WASHINGTON	36	23	9	32	26	10	12
WICHITA	33	24	9	27	23	7	-5
WILSON	62	22	8	43	17	4	-22
WOODSON	44	23	9	58	31	10	34
WYANDOTTE	667	20	6	.	.	.	.
KANSAS	**8,946**	**19.0**		**10,686**	**19.8**		**4.3**

Binge drinking is defined as taking five or more consecutive drinks on one occasion. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

YOUTH WHO HAVE EVER USED DRUGS OTHER THAN ALCOHOL

Drug use is of serious concern because of the real potential for use to turn into abuse and dependency. Substance abuse affects not only the users, but also their families, schools and communities and is often accompanied by a variety of problems. It is associated with academic difficulties including declining grades, absenteeism and increased potential for dropping out. Substance abuse can also lead to poor physical and mental health. Health-related consequences of teenage substance abuse include accidental injuries, physical disabilities and diseases, and the effects of possible overdoses. Mental health problems frequently linked to substance abuse among adolescents include depression, developmental lag, apathy, withdrawal, and other psychosocial disorders. Moreover, drug use is associated with violent crime among youth and, consequently, involvement with the juvenile justice system.[1] In sum, drug use turns youth in the wrong direction.

At the national level, drug use continued to decline in 1999. Results of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's 1999 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) show that the percentage of adolescents ages 12-17 who reported using illicit drugs in the month prior to the survey continued to decline. The rate of adolescent use of any illicit drugs declined from 11.4 percent in 1997 to 9.9 percent in 1998 to 9.0 percent in 1999.[2] Marijuana is the most commonly used illicit drug among high school students. In 1999, almost one-half of all high school students had ever used marijuana, and more than one-fourth had used marijuana one or more times in the past 30 days.[3]

Kansas did not follow the national trend of declining drug use. The state experienced a slight increase of 2.2 percent from the base years period. Neosho County recorded the state high with 41 percent of sixth, eighth, 10th and 12th grade students reporting use of drugs other than alcohol. The state low was celebrated by Nemaha County at 2 percent. Overall, the data showed that 20.6 percent of these youth reported using drugs other than alcohol, a figure notably higher than the national rate cited above. The three counties of Marion, Marshall, and Nemaha achieved the largest improvements across the state with percent changes of 48, 42 and 75 percent, respectively, as compared to the base years period. Meade and Neosho counties reported the largest increases.

Kansas counties are encouraged to invest in drug abuse prevention efforts. Ideas for preventing drug abuse include peer counseling, youth sponsored events and recreational activities, distribution of information on the effects of drugs, school-based anonymous reporting systems, and distribution of local alcohol and drug treatment centers.[4]

[1] Dickinson, T. & Crowe, A. (2000, November 9). Capacity building for juvenile substance abuse treatment. *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*, December 1997. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. On-line: http://www.ncjrs.org/html/ojjdp/jjbul9712-1/jjbdec97.html.

[2] Maternal and Child Health Bureau. (2000, October 30). *Child Health USA 2000*. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC. On-line: ftp://158.72.84.9/ftp/mchb/chusa00.pdf.

[3] National Center for Health Statistics. (2000). *Health, United States, 2000 With adolescent health chartbook*. Hyattsville, MD. On-line: http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/hus00.pdf.

[4] Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. (2000, November 9). Youth preventing drug abuse. *Youth In Action*, December 1998 (4).

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVG. NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
ALLEN	82	19	7	116	22	8	14
ANDERSON	10	12	3	57	20	7	72
ATCHISON	80	15	5	83	15	4	1
BARBER	15	12	4	.	.	.	.
BARTON	99	14	4	247	19	6	38
BOURBON	39	10	2	13	6	1	-33
BROWN	59	14	4	32	11	2	-18
BUTLER	261	22	9	384	21	8	-5
CHASE	16	15	6	.	.	.	.
CHAUTAUQUA	15	21	8	.	.	.	.
CHEROKEE	126	20	8	117	19	6	-2
CHEYENNE	11	10	3	11	8	1	-23
CLARK	10	10	2	.	.	.	.
CLAY	81	27	10	70	20	7	-25
CLOUD	48	16	6	58	15	4	-6
COFFEY	56	15	5	58	20	7	32
COMANCHE	5	4	1	.	.	.	.
COWLEY	165	22	9	182	23	9	5
CRAWFORD	176	21	9	286	24	9	14
DECATUR	28	16	6	22	12	2	-29
DICKINSON	123	19	7	161	18	5	-5
DONIPHAN	23	12	3	46	15	4	28
DOUGLAS	54	29	10	.	.	.	.
EDWARDS	9	8	2	.	.	.	.
ELK	11	19	7	.	.	.	.
ELLIS	66	15	5	191	16	4	10
ELLSWORTH	.	.	.	64	16	4	.
FINNEY	257	21	9	269	21	8	-2
FORD	186	20	8	192	19	6	-8
FRANKLIN	24	9	2	.	.	.	.
GEARY	179	16	6	207	17	5	6
GOVE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
GRAHAM	10	10	3	.	.	.	.

COUNTY	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 AVG. NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	BASE YEARS - 1995-99 DECILE RANK	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 NUMBER REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 PERCENT REPORTING OTHER DRUG USE	CURRENT YEAR - 2000 DECILE RANK	PERCENT CHANGE
GRANT	133	33	10	108	26	10	-20
GRAY	10	9	2	.	.	.	.
GREELEY	14	16	6	.	.	.	.
GREENWOOD	37	14	5	26	14	3	-3
HAMILTON	13	12	3	.	.	.	.
HARPER	42	16	7	.	.	.	.
HARVEY	161	18	7	233	20	7	7
HASKELL	.	.	.	15	14	3	.
HODGEMAN	.	.	.	7	7	1	.
JACKSON	92	25	10	97	22	8	-11
JEFFERSON	38	23	10	.	.	.	.
JEWELL	8	7	1	.	.	.	.
JOHNSON	572	27	10	1,779	24	9	-10
KEARNY	.	.	.	30	13	3	.
KINGMAN	40	16	6	64	19	6	16
KIOWA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
LABETTE	141	22	9	130	30	10	37
LANE	8	8	2	.	.	.	.
LEAVENWORTH	189	19	7	304	18	6	-4
LINCOLN	.	.	.	29	23	9	.
LINN	33	18	7	39	27	10	45
LOGAN	20	13	4	18	14	3	2
LYON	84	15	5	188	20	7	35
MCPHERSON	44	14	5	105	20	7	48
MARION	54	13	4	20	7	1	-48
MARSHALL	24	10	2	12	6	1	-42
MEADE	1	3	1	20	17	5	558
MIAMI	138	22	9	.	.	.	.
MITCHELL	33	13	4	52	24	9	85
MONTGOMERY	217	22	9	351	26	10	18
MORRIS	53	18	7	58	20	7	12
MORTON	31	23	9	.	.	.	.
NEMAHA	36	7	1	5	2	1	-75
NEOSHO	47	13	4	128	41	10	215
NESS	22	12	3	27	17	5	48
NORTON	41	16	6	51	17	5	2
OSAGE	116	19	8	126	19	6	-2
OSBORNE	5	6	1	.	.	.	.
OTTAWA	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
PAWNEE	51	20	8	45	18	5	-10
PHILLIPS	11	7	1	29	10	2	29
POTTAWATOMIE	60	15	6	129	22	8	43
PRATT	71	18	7	77	22	8	17
RAWLINS	13	11	3	16	11	2	-1
RENO	211	20	8	367	19	6	-4
REPUBLIC	11	7	1	.	.	.	.
RICE	48	15	5	74	16	4	8
RILEY	120	20	8	256	20	7	1
ROOKS	38	20	8	65	24	9	16
RUSH	16	13	4	21	12	3	-9
RUSSELL	36	15	6	44	13	3	-13
SALINE	400	24	10	459	26	10	9
SCOTT	35	12	3	28	11	2	-5
SEDGWICK	948	23	9	1,235	24	9	6
SEWARD	162	15	5	.	.	.	.
SHAWNEE	709	23	10	886	26	10	12
SHERIDAN	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
SHERMAN	40	14	5	40	14	3	-1
SMITH	17	8	2	23	11	2	38
STAFFORD	9	6	1	.	.	.	.
STANTON	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
STEVENS	35	22	9	65	24	9	9
SUMNER	137	21	8	87	22	8	6
THOMAS	26	9	2	33	11	2	17
TREGO	19	11	3	14	9	2	-18
WABAUNSEE	25	13	4	55	18	6	38
WALLACE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
WASHINGTON	10	7	1	9	7	1	6
WICHITA	21	15	5	20	17	4	14
WILSON	47	16	7	44	18	5	7
WOODSON	22	11	3	31	16	4	42
WYANDOTTE	1,090	33	10	.	.	.	.
KANSAS	**8,367**	**20.2**		**11,159**	**20.6**		**2.2**

Drug use means use of any of the following: marijuana, cocaine, inhalants or LSD. Among these, marijuana is the most frequently reported drug used. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center from a survey administered to youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12. Counties in which less than 25 children per grade participated are not reported. State totals are from all survey respondents and include data from omitted counties.

STATE AND COUNTY STATISTICS

KANSAS

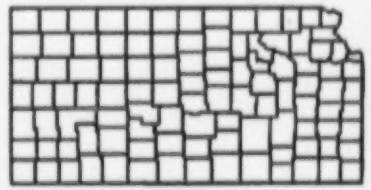
	Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: Rate	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING				
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.6	3,745	9.7	0.9
Children in Poverty	.	109,324	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.9	149,724	32.2	1.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY				
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	27.9	140	26.2	6.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.4	281	7.3	2.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.4	33,058	85.8	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.8	23,096	74.9	17.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.7	2,762	7.1	5.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION				
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	49.3	6,353	53.1	7.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.5	130,222	26.6	0.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.1	22,165	77.7	2.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.1	7,219	18.7	3.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.8	28,543	81.8	1.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING				
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.0	5,534	7.9	1.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	73.9	118	55.3	25.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	47.3	41,186	59.9	26.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.7	7,571	10.9	12.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL				
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.1	17,038	24.4	1.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.8	19,890	36.9	4.9
Percent of Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs	20.2	11,159	20.6	2.2

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	State
Population Size	2,634,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.3%
Ethnicity	
White, non-Hispanic	86.3%
Black	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.6%
Median Family Income	$36,488
Unemployment	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Service)



Kansas celebrated a number of improvements, with the most noticeable occurring on four indicators. In comparison to the base years period, the child death rate dropped by 6.1 percent. Even more substantial gains were noted on the teen violent death rate, which decreased by 25 percent in comparison to the base years period. Additional health gains were made for young children by a significant increase in the immunization rate. Also, the state was able to include more eligible children in the Head Start program. In contrast to these accomplishments, Kansas suffered setbacks on several indicators; the most noteworthy included increases in reported and confirmed child abuse. Another concern is the continued moderate increase in the percent of low-birth-weight babies. The state also saw small increases in births to single teens, as well as births to mothers without a high school degree. In addition, increases in all of the Social Behavior/Social Control indicators warrant attention.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

ALLEN

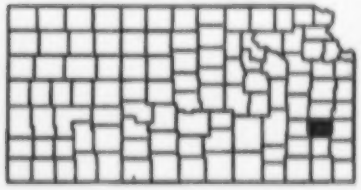
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	14,435	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.4%	86.3%
Black	2.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,171	$36,488
Unemployment	4.6%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Iola



Allen County substantially increased its percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. During the past year, the rate of high school graduations increased somewhat as well. Of concern, the rate of births to single teenagers increased this year and placed Allen County in the bottom 10 percent for the state. While slightly lower than its base years rate, the out-of-home placement rate for this county was among the highest in Kansas.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.8	42	22.5	10	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	848	21.4	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.3	1,124	42.9	9	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	19.6	1	33.8	8	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	1.2	1	5.3	7	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.9	156	83.4	7	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.5	96	70.6	10	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	13	7.0	5	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	66.9	48	58.8	5	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.9	680	25.4	4	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.2	150	75.0	8	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.1	44	23.5	9	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	75.8	200	79.4	9	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	15.1	54	14.1	10	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	34.0	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	43.7	339	87.5	9	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.8	69	17.8	9	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	32.7	152	39.2	9	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.4	222	42.0	8	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	19.1	116	21.9	8	20.6	

ANDERSON

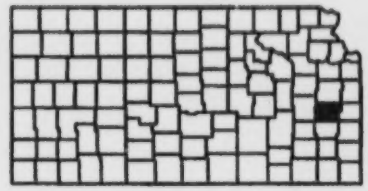
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.5	8	7.7	4	9.7	9.3
Children in Poverty	.	414	18.9	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	39.0	590	40.5	8	32.2	3.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	49.6	2	124.2	10	26.2	(-)
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.5	1	9.6	8	7.3	47.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.5	89	85.6	6	85.8	2.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.3	69	75.3	7	74.9	24.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	12	11.5	10	7.1	76.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	43.4	20	48.9	6	53.1	12.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	12.2	206	14.3	10	26.6	16.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.1	81	74.3	8	77.7	0.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.3	22	21.4	8	18.7	17.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.2	109	88.6	6	81.8	0.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.7	15	7.0	7	7.9	4.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	168.1	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.0	163	75.9	8	59.9	(-)
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	18.7	32	14.9	8	10.9	20.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	21.1	49	22.8	5	24.4	8.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	131	46.1	10	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	11.6	57	19.9	7	20.6	72.1

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,119	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.5%	86.3%
Black	0.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,776	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.1%	3.4%

County Seat: Garnett



Anderson County continued to enjoy a high rate of children graduating from high school. The current rate was well above the state average. This county also saw a sizable jump in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. There were problem areas. The availability of child care, while increasing somewhat this year, was still among the lowest in Kansas. This county also saw a jump in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies.

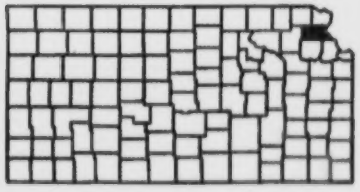
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

ATCHISON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	16,856	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	89.9%	86.3%
Black	6.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.9%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,515	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Atchison



Atchison County continued to have a rate of drug use by its young people that was well below the state average. In addition, rates of both reported and confirmed child abuse were lower than most of the rest of Kansas. Immunization rates saw a sharp increase as well in the current year. Unfortunately, the rate of births to single teens increased this year. The percentage of Atchison County children living below the poverty line was among the bottom 20 percent in Kansas. One in five children in this county live in poverty.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse / Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.4	25	13.0	9	9.7	13.6
Children in Poverty	.	945	21.4	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.3	1,085	42.3	9	32.2	2.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	23.4	1	29.7	7	26.2	27.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.8	2	10.4	9	7.3	266.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.6	155	80.3	8	85.8	1.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	47.3	97	72.3	9	74.9	53.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.2	19	9.8	9	7.1	85.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	42.8	51	53.5	6	53.1	25.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.8	657	22.2	7	26.6	36.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.3	112	71.8	9	77.7	5.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.0	33	17.1	6	18.7	13.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.1	156	80.0	9	81.8	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11.5	32	7.0	7	7.9	39.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	60.8	1	57.5	7	55.3	3.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	27.5	234	50.9	4	59.9	84.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.0	12	2.6	2	10.9	33.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.0	168	36.5	8	24.4	39.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.4	218	38.6	6	36.9	3.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.6	83	14.7	4	20.6	0.9

BARBER

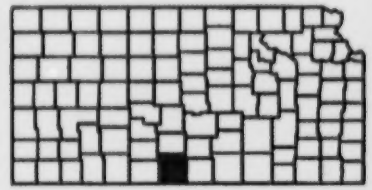
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.2	5	9.3	6	9.7	12.8
Children in Poverty	.	248	17.3	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.3	383	35.5	5	32.2	6.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	52.1	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.1	42	77.8	8	85.8	8.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.1	47	78.1	6	74.9	14.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.8	3	5.6	3	7.1	29.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.1	192	19.9	8	26.6	5.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.8	87	85.3	3	77.7	6.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.4	10	18.5	7	18.7	20.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.1	102	93.6	3	81.8	16.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.6	10	7.5	8	7.9	1.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	179.1	1	292.4	10	55.3	63.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	22.3	50	36.6	2	59.9	63.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.4	2	1.5	2	10.9	77.8
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.8	21	15.4	3	24.4	2.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.6	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	12.3	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,240	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.5%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,317	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.4%	3.4%

County Seat: Medicine Lodge



Barber County enjoyed a number of positive educational outcomes this year. The rate of high school graduation remained among the highest in Kansas. This year also saw an increase in the percentage of children who sought post-secondary education or training. Of concern, there continues to be no Head Start program in Barber County. The percentage of births to mothers who had early prenatal care decreased this year, and reports of child abuse and neglect increased.

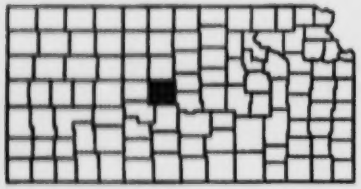
BARTON

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	28,658	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	93.8%	86.3%
Black	1.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,079	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.1%	3.4%

County Seat: Great Bend



Barton County experienced a reduction in the percentage of juvenile court filings. Other positive outcomes included an increase in the high school graduation rate and a continuation of a rate of post-secondary education that exceeds the state figure. Another positive note: Barton County also had a dramatic increase in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. Problem areas identified for this county included an increase in the rate of out-of-home placements. Reports of child abuse or neglect were among the highest in Kansas.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse / Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.7	38	9.9	7	9.7	6.9
Children in Poverty	.	1,384	17.8	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	39.5	1,932	39.8	8	32.2	0.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	13.2	0	0.0	6	26.2	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.6	1	2.6	6	7.3	77.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	82.7	311	82.1	7	85.8	0.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.9	227	79.0	6	74.9	41.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	24	6.3	4	7.1	2.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	32.7	54	36.1	7	53.1	10.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.1	1,270	23.8	5	26.6	1.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.0	242	80.4	5	77.7	0.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.5	98	25.7	9	18.7	5.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	79.3	301	84.6	8	81.8	4.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.8	93	12.6	10	7.9	42.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	59.0	1	47.8	7	55.3	19.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	48.8	688	91.9	10	59.9	88.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	4.5	57	7.6	5	10.9	67.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.6	176	23.5	6	24.4	17.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.6	547	41.3	8	36.9	30.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	13.6	247	18.6	6	20.6	37.5

BOURBON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.7	28	14.7	10	9.7	25.9
Children in Poverty	.	1,019	25.7	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.3	1,155	43.5	10	32.2	3.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	47.3	2	69.6	9	26.2	47.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.1	2	10.5	9	7.3	233.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.6	149	78.8	8	85.8	3.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.9	120	77.7	6	74.9	36.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	15	7.9	7	7.1	21.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	42.8	48	46.8	7	53.1	9.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.7	610	23.1	6	26.6	6.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.6	138	82.6	4	77.7	3.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.0	38	20.0	7	18.7	0.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	79.7	167	80.7	9	81.8	1.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.2	52	13.9	10	7.9	68.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	96.2	1	75.9	7	55.3	31.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.4	322	84.1	9	59.9	98.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	29.7	133	34.8	10	10.9	14.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	27.5	128	33.4	8	24.4	35.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	26.0	47	23.0	1	36.9	11.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	9.6	13	6.4	1	20.6	8.1

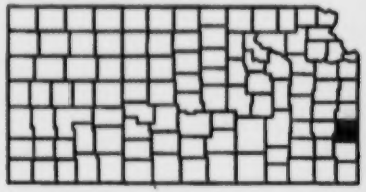
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	14,980	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.4%	86.3%
Black	3.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,362	$36,488
Unemployment	3.7%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Fort Scott



Bourbon County experienced an increase in the percentage of children who pursued post-secondary education or training. This year's rate exceeded the state figure. This county also had reductions in the percentage of children who reported recent alcohol use, or any use of drugs in their lifetime. Both figures were well below the state rate. Of concern, there was a reduction in the percentage of births that received early prenatal care. This year's rate of births to single teens was among the worst in Kansas. More than one in four Bourbon County children live below the poverty line.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

BROWN

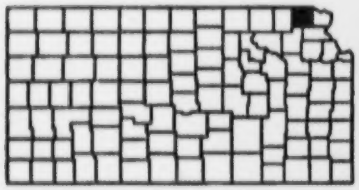
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,930	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	90.4%	86.3%
Black	1.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	6.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,260	$36,488
Unemployment	5.4%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hiawatha



Brown County had a number of positive educational outcomes. Head Start participation among eligible children increased and was in the top third statewide. This county also enjoyed a high school graduation percentage higher than its base years rate. The percentage of high school graduates who pursued further education or training also improved. Of concern, the percentage of births to mothers who had less than a high school degree increased. More than one in five Brown County children live below the poverty line, a figure that places this county's rate in the bottom 20 percent statewide.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.4	13	10.4	7	9.7	Better 16.2
Children in Poverty	.	678	22.0	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.4	754	41.9	9	32.2	Worse 1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.9	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.0	1	8.0	8	7.3	Better 10.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.6	110	88.7	4	85.8	Better 4.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.0	71	76.0	7	74.9	Better 20.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	6	4.8	3	7.1	Better 13.2
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	57.5	60	87.4	3	53.1	Better 52.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.4	470	22.5	6	26.6	Worse 14.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.2	112	84.2	3	77.7	Better 9.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.5	25	20.0	7	18.7	Worse 21.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.4	133	95.0	2	81.8	Better 5.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.2	25	8.4	8	7.9	Worse 2.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	75.8	1	118.6	8	55.3	Worse 36.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	18.7	150	50.0	4	59.9	Worse 117
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.3	3	1.0	1	10.9	Better 23.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.0	61	20.3	4	24.4	Better 15.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.8	95	32.5	3	36.9	Better 0.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	13.6	32	11.1	2	20.6	Better 18.5

BUTLER

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.0	69	9.1	5	9.7	6.6
Children in Poverty	.	1,978	11.2	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	19.1	2,370	17.7	1	32.2	7.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	18.5	2	14.9	6	26.2	19.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.0	4	5.3	7	7.3	34.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.5	676	89.5	3	85.8	1.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	66.8	613	76.5	7	74.9	14.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	45	5.9	4	7.1	13.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	60.8	110	52.6	6	53.1	13.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.0	2,035	16.8	9	26.6	11.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.3	645	78.9	5	77.7	1.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.4	98	12.9	4	18.7	4.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.1	818	87.2	6	81.8	1.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.0	67	3.8	4	7.9	6.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	43.5	3	58.3	7	55.3	34.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39.2	861	49.1	4	59.9	25.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.7	135	7.7	5	10.9	16.4
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.1	329	18.8	3	24.4	1.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.7	629	34.2	4	36.9	1.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	22.0	384	20.9	8	20.6	5.2

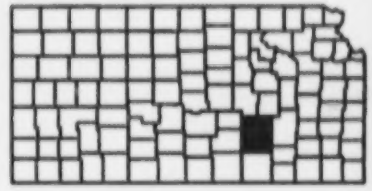
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	62,769	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.3%	86.3%
Black	1.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$44,998	$36,488
Unemployment	4.3%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: El Dorado



Butler County improved in child and maternal outcomes. The percentage of mothers who had early prenatal care increased and was in the top 30 percent statewide. The rate of low-birth-weight deliveries declined this year as well, while early childhood immunizations exceeded the base years rate. On the negative side, this county had a very low rate of child care availability, and Head Start participation among eligible children declined this year.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

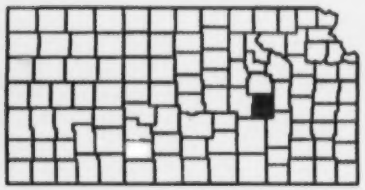
CHASE

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,855	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.1%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,129	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Cottonwood Falls



Chase County enjoyed an increase in the percentage of births that received early prenatal care. This county's rate was among the top 20 percent statewide. The percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2 was higher than the county's base years percentage. Out-of-home placements also was better (lower) than the base rate. Of concern, the availability of child care declined and was among the bottom 10 percent statewide

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.6	4	9.5	6	9.7	11.1
Children in Poverty	.	182	23.5	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.8	170	32.9	4	32.2	5.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.2	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.8	38	90.5	2	85.8	6.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.9	28	71.8	9	74.9	8.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.3	4	9.5	8	7.1	29.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.9	82	16.2	10	26.6	29.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.6	32	80.0	5	77.7	8.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.3	8	19.0	7	18.7	16.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.2	40	83.3	8	81.8	4.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.6	4	5.7	5	7.9	34.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	29.4	35	48.3	4	59.9	84.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.0	4	5.5	4	10.9	118.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	34.7	52	71.8	10	24.4	192.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	40.8	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	15.0	.	.	.	20.6	

CHAUTAUQUA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.4	9	27.3	10	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	290	28.1	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	47.8	369	47.8	10	32.2	0.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	51.8	1	133.5	10	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	48.8	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.6	29	87.9	4	85.8	18.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.6	30	74.2	8	74.9	35.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	4	12.1	10	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	10.2	80	11.9	10	26.6	16.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.8	29	64.4	10	77.7	9.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.7	8	24.2	9	18.7	31.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.3	45	86.5	7	81.8	2.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.5	3	3.1	3	7.9	32.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	144.5	1	342.5	10	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	72.0	54	54.2	5	59.9	24.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	17.8	21	21.1	9	10.9	16.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	26.2	22	22.1	5	24.4	15.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	20.9	.	.	.	20.6	

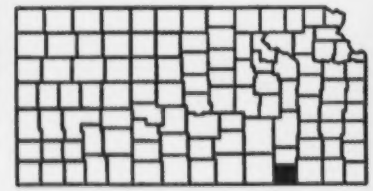
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,273	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.6%	86.3%
Black	0.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	3.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$24,358	$36,488
Unemployment	3.3%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Sedan



Chautauqua County experienced a slight increase in its high school graduation rate and enjoys a percentage above the state level. The county's percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2 was higher than its base years rate. Although the availability of child care increased, this county still has one of the lowest rates in Kansas. The percentage of young people pursuing post-secondary education dropped this year as well.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

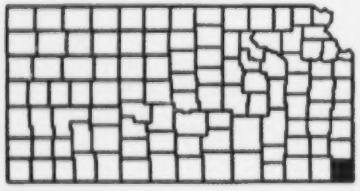
CHEROKEE

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	22,401	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.7%	86.3%
Black	0.6%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	3.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$27,729	$36,488
Unemployment (1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	5.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Columbus



Cherokee County achieved an increase this year in the Head Start participation rate. The county's rate of juvenile court filings was lower than its base years rate and was in the top 20 percent of Kansas counties. The percentage of children who reported recent use of alcohol also was among the lower rates in Kansas. There were areas of concern. One in four children in this county lived below the poverty line. The percentage of young people who sought post-secondary education also dropped significantly. The current rate was one of the lowest statewide.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.4	28	9.7	6	9.7	7.1
Children in Poverty	.	1,523	25.0	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	45.5	1,704	43.4	9	32.2	14.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.4	0	0.0	6	26.2	35.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.5	3	10.3	9	7.3	38.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.8	233	80.3	7	85.8	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	51.8	187	71.0	9	74.9	36.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	25	8.6	7	7.1	42.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	54.6	114	76.1	4	53.1	39.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.9	843	21.5	7	26.6	13.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	60.1	143	47.2	10	77.7	21.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.7	59	20.5	7	18.7	8.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.7	303	87.3	6	81.8	10.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.7	43	7.3	7	7.9	4.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	87.5	1	51.3	7	55.3	41.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	63.1	452	76.4	8	59.9	21.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	27.5	167	28.2	10	10.9	1.8
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	14.3	78	13.2	2	24.4	7.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.8	179	29.7	2	36.9	3.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	19.8	117	19.4	6	20.6	2.3

CHEYENNE

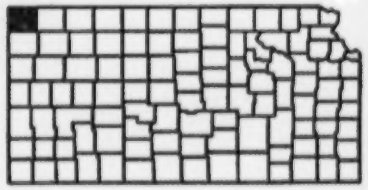
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.0	1	4.5	2	9.7	23.7
Children in Poverty	.	117	15.4	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.0	269	42.3	9	32.2	3.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	68.1	1	171.2	10	26.2	151.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.2	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.7	20	90.9	2	85.8	4.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.2	23	80.0	6	74.9	24.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.6	0	0.0	1	7.1	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	115.6	17	113.9	2	53.1	1.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.8	128	24.8	4	26.6	4.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	90.3	55	83.3	4	77.7	7.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.0	4	18.2	6	18.7	29.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.7	66	100.0	1	81.8	5.6
EMOTIONAL WELL BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.6	2	2.5	2	7.9	13.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	525.8	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.9	35	45.3	3	59.9	89.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	38.4	11	14.2	7	10.9	62.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	8.6	14	18.1	3	24.4	110.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	28.7	39	28.5	2	36.9	0.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	10.4	11	8.0	1	20.6	23.0

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,225	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.3%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.0%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,484	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.3%	3.4%

County Seat: St. Francis



Cheyenne County experienced a number of positive educational outcomes this year, including a 100 percent high school graduation rate. This county also has one of the highest Head Start participation rates among its eligible children. While the rate of children pursuing post-secondary education declined slightly, it remained above the state average. Of concern, this county's juvenile court filings rate in each of the last two years has been 18.1, a steep increase over the base years rate, and reports of child abuse or neglect was almost twice the base years rate.

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A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

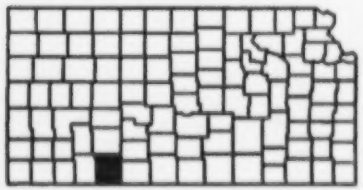
CLARK

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,342	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	96.0%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,987	$36,488
Unemployment	1.5%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ashland



Clark County saw an increase in the availability of child care, and it enjoys a rate in the top 10 percent statewide. This county also posted one of the highest rates of high school graduation among all Kansas counties. The percentage of children pursuing post-secondary education in this county remained above the state level, although it did decline slightly. Problem areas included a reduction in the rate of births that received early prenatal care, and this county continues to lack a Head Start program.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.8	1	3.3	1	9.7	42.4
Children in Poverty	.	97	16.0	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.3	187	33.4	5	32.2	6.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	172.3	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	16.5	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.1	23	76.7	9	85.8	9.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.8	26	74.1	8	74.9	30.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.3	0	0.0	1	7.1	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	29.7	140	34.7	1	26.6	16.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	90.3	37	82.2	4	77.7	9.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.6	3	10.0	3	18.7	51.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.5	45	97.8	1	81.8	11.4
EMOTIONAL WELL BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0.7	0	0.0	1	7.9	100.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	132.8	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.2	11	18.6	1	59.9	7.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.7	1	1.7	2	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	27.4	17	28.8	7	24.4	5.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.3	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	9.7	.	.	.	20.6	

CLAY

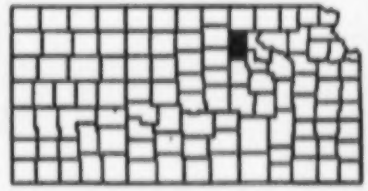
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.2	9	9.8	6	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	402	16.8	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.7	492	31.0	4	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.7	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.3	1	10.9	9	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.0	79	86.8	5	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.1	83	87.4	3	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	8	8.7	8	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	124.7	49	131.0	1	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	31.5	454	29.1	2	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.4	95	70.9	9	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.4	9	9.8	2	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.5	134	88.2	6	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.2	5	2.2	2	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	67.4	1	162.6	9	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	57.7	184	80.2	8	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.4	35	15.3	8	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.4	25	10.9	2	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	48.6	150	42.8	8	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	26.6	70	19.9	7	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,971	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.5%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,910	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.3%	3.4%

County Seat: Clay Center



Clay County had reductions in the rate of out-of-home placements during the most recent year, and the rate of juvenile court filings was better (lower) than its base years rate. Both figures are in the top 20 percent of all Kansas counties. Other positive notes included a reduction in the percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school diploma and a high school graduation rate above the state average. Concerns included an increase in the rate of child abuse and neglect confirmations and a reduction in the percentage of youths pursing post-secondary education or training.

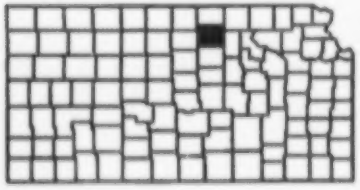
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

CLOUD

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,007	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	90.5%	86.3%
Black	0.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,851	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Concordia



Cloud County enjoyed a substantial increase this year in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. Despite a slight decline in the current year, Cloud County had one of the highest rates of child care availability in Kansas. Other positive news included a reduction in the rate of out-of-home placements. Concerns consisted of a continuation of the high rate of juvenile court filings and a rate of child abuse and neglect reports and confirmations in the bottom (worst) 10 percent statewide.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse	Percent Change Over Time: Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING							
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.9	6	5.7	3	9.7		42.5
Children in Poverty	.	438	18.9	8	15.4		
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.9	629	41.0	8	32.2		22.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY							
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	22.2	1	58.9	9	26.2	125.1	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.0	0	.	.	7.3		
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	90	85.7	6	85.8	3.5	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.1	76	83.0	4	74.9		30.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	7	6.7	5	7.1	1.6	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION							
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	97.4	36	86.4	3	53.1	11.3	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	38.2	544	35.3	1	26.6	7.7	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.8	119	81.0	4	77.7		11.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.7	14	13.5	4	18.7	35.4	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.3	147	89.6	5	81.8	0.7	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING							
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9.2	6	2.7	3	7.9		70.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	46.5	0	.	.	55.3		
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	55.9	210	94.1	10	59.9	68.3	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.4	57	25.5	10	10.9	105.6	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL							
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	40.3	90	40.3	9	24.4	0.1	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.4	140	35.6	5	36.9		9.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	15.6	58	14.6	4	20.6		26.5

COFFEY

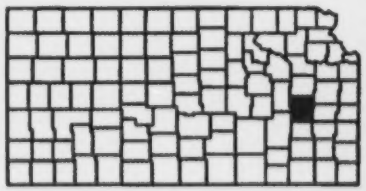
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.1	8	8.1	5	9.7	10.1
Children in Poverty	.	372	15.2	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.3	422	22.6	1	32.2	14.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.9	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.6	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.4	90	91.8	2	85.8	12.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	67.2	89	80.6	5	74.9	20.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	7	7.1	6	7.1	7.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	115.1	20	53.3	6	53.1	53.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.3	446	27.4	3	26.6	4.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.2	117	78.5	6	77.7	5.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.7	11	11.1	3	18.7	12.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.6	149	89.8	5	81.8	2.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.4	9	3.7	4	7.9	53.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	59.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	52.0	166	68.7	7	59.9	32.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.3	7	2.9	3	10.9	12.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.3	44	18.2	3	24.4	3.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.1	97	32.9	3	36.9	4.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.9	58	19.7	7	20.6	32.3

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,741	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.7%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,411	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Burlington



Coffey County experienced positive outcomes in child and maternal health. The percentage of births with early prenatal care was among the top 20 percent statewide, births to mothers who lacked a high school degree declined, and early childhood immunizations was well above the base years rate. Of concern were increases in the rate of out-of-home placements, although this figure remained below the state rate. The Head Start participation rate also declined.

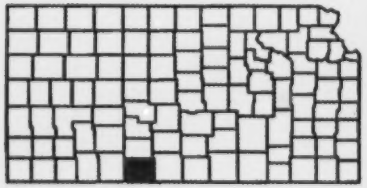
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

COMANCHE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	1,954	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.5%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$27,139	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	0.8%	3.4%

County Seat: Coldwater



Comanche County experienced no births to single teen mothers, a very positive outcome. While the births to mothers who lacked a high school degree increased somewhat this year, it continued to be better than the state figure, also good news. There were some concerns in the educational area. This county continues to lack a Head Start program, and the high school graduation rate fell this year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.6	0	0.0	1	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	75	15.5	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.3	100	31.0	4	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	52.2	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.2	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.9	13	81.3	7	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	75.6	20	82.6	4	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.3	1	6.3	4	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.0	76	24.0	5	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	88.1	14	77.8	6	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.1	2	12.5	4	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.1	18	78.3	9	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.5	2	4.5	5	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	1	746.3	10	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	28.4	18	39.0	2	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.1	4	8.7	5	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.7	11	23.9	6	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.2	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	4.5	.	.	.	20.6	

COWLEY

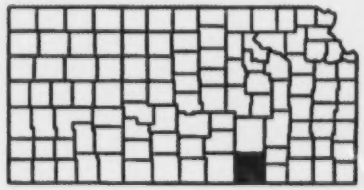
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse / Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.8	68	13.4	9	9.7	13.6
Children in Poverty	.	1,811	18.5	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.2	2,498	37.5	7	32.2	0.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.9	3	41.0	8	26.2	11.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.3	4	7.9	8	7.3	26.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.1	439	86.8	5	85.8	0.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.9	265	71.4	9	74.9	8.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	33	6.5	5	7.1	17.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	57.8	85	47.0	7	53.1	18.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.6	1,299	19.6	8	26.6	0.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.5	349	80.6	5	77.7	5.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	21.5	115	22.6	8	18.7	5.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.1	433	76.5	10	81.8	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.7	60	6.3	6	7.9	11.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	60.7	2	64.5	7	55.3	6.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	66.3	832	86.6	9	59.9	30.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.0	138	14.4	8	10.9	11.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	31.7	355	36.9	9	24.4	16.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.9	260	32.4	3	36.9	7.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	21.5	182	22.7	9	20.6	5.3

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	36,948	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	89.6%	86.3%
Black	3.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	2.0%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,933	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Winfield



Cowley County enjoyed an increase in the percentage of high school graduates who pursued post-secondary education. This county also experienced a dramatic decline from last year in the percentage of young people who reported recent alcohol use. Concerns for Cowley County include a downward trend during the last two years in the percentage of students who graduated high school compared to base years. This year's figure was in the bottom 10 percent statewide. In addition, more than one in five births were to mothers who lacked a high school diploma.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

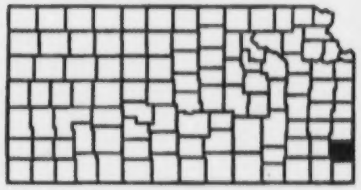
CRAWFORD

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	36,347	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.8%	86.3%
Black	1.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.9%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,442	$36,488
Unemployment (1995 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.1%	3.4%

County Seat: Girard



Crawford County experienced an availability of child care above its bases years rate. This county also increased the immunization rate and decreased current out-of-home placement rate, although it remains in the bottom 10 percent statewide on both of these indicators. Concerns included a percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school diploma higher than the base years rate.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse	Percent Change Over Time: Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING							
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.8	63	11.9	8	9.7	20.7	
Children in Poverty	.	1,975	22.9	10	15.4		
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.8	2,287	38.6	7	32.2	2.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY							
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	27.1	1	15.5	6	26.2		42.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.6	4	7.5	8	7.3	34.6	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.2	432	81.8	7	85.8	5.1	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.3	267	68.0	10	74.9		25.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.5	32	6.0	4	7.1	10.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION							
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	46.9	103	51.6	6	53.1		10.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.6	1,405	24.1	5	26.6		7.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.4	291	74.6	8	77.7		1.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.6	106	20.1	7	18.7	21.0	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	79.7	390	77.4	10	81.8	2.9	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING							
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	14.8	112	13.3	10	7.9		10.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	40.5	3	95.0	8	55.3	139.2	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	84.5	744	87.7	9	59.9		3.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.3	201	23.7	10	10.9	22.6	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL							
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.5	222	26.2	7	24.4		8.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.5	494	41.5	8	36.9	10.8	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	21.1	286	24.0	9	20.6	13.6	

DECATUR

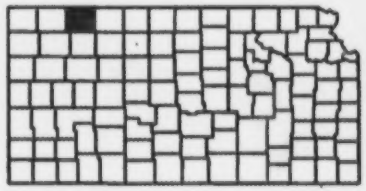
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.0	0	0.0	1	9.7	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	164	18.9	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.3	233	36.3	6	32.2	19.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.7	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.6	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.6	20	87.0	4	85.8	0.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	67.3	32	91.7	1	74.9	36.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.4	2	8.7	8	7.1	155.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	123.5	17	112.6	2	53.1	8.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.3	154	26.5	3	26.6	2.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.6	56	88.9	2	77.7	9.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.7	3	13.0	4	18.7	93.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.7	63	96.9	2	81.8	18.2
EMOTIONAL WELL BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.4	5	6.3	6	7.9	43.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	227.8	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	34.3	43	52.1	5	59.9	51.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.2	22	26.7	7	24.4	10.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.5	67	34.9	4	36.9	10.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	16.2	22	11.5	2	20.6	29.0

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,370	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.5%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	99.1%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,427	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Oberlin



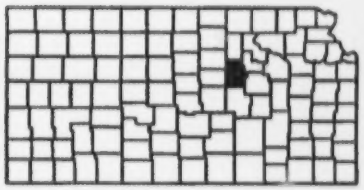
Decatur County enjoyed one of the higher rates statewide of high school graduate participation in post-secondary education or training. Another positive educational outcome included a graduation rate in the top 20 percent of Kansas counties. This county also maintained a high rate of Head Start participation among its eligible children. Problem areas included a juvenile court filing rate above the base years rate and an increase in the rate of out-of-home placements.

DICKINSON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	19,645	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.9%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.8%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,975	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.7%	3.4%

County Seat: Abilene



Dickinson County had a rate of child care availability that ranked in the top 20 percent of Kansas counties. This county also enjoyed an increase in its high school graduation rate and saw a decline in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies. Concerns for this county included a rate of child abuse and neglect confirmation that was well above the state figure.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.5	21	9.3	6	9.7	18.6
Children in Poverty	.	688	13.4	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.0	1,392	33.4	4	32.2	1.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.5	1	26.1	7	26.2	26.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.4	1	4.4	6	7.3	30.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.2	192	85.7	6	85.8	1.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.1	188	82.1	5	74.9	26.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.6	14	6.2	4	7.1	18.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	69.9	75	104.7	2	53.1	49.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.2	1,045	30.6	2	26.6	8.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.1	215	71.2	9	77.7	0.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.2	33	14.7	5	18.7	9.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.3	302	86.8	7	81.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.2	20	4.0	4	7.9	83.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	57.2	2	135.5	9	55.3	317.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	49.9	311	61.6	6	59.9	23.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.2	74	14.7	8	10.9	3.8
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	30.8	137	27.1	7	24.4	12.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.4	337	36.9	5	36.9	14.0
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	18.5	161	17.6	5	20.6	14.9

DONIPHAN

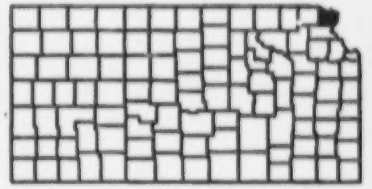
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.4	13	13.7	9	9.7	31.6
Children in Poverty	.	401	19.7	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	36.2	581	35.5	5	32.2	1.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	65.5	9	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.1	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.0	82	86.3	5	85.8	2.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.0	86	72.3	9	74.9	33.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	6	6.3	4	7.1	8.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	89.8	38	83.5	3	53.1	7.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.9	316	23.3	6	26.6	16.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.9	93	80.9	5	77.7	14.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.6	16	16.8	5	18.7	14.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.0	115	90.6	5	81.8	1.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.4	9	4.5	4	7.9	1.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	102.1	1	113.5	8	55.3	11.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.5	69	34.4	2	59.9	76.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.5	2	1.0	1	10.9	33.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.6	45	22.5	5	24.4	27.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.0	109	35.8	5	36.9	2.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	11.8	46	15.2	4	20.6	28.3

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,954	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.4%	86.3%
Black	2.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,077	$36,488
Unemployment (1989 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	5.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Troy



Doniphan County experienced positive educational outcomes among its young people. The high school graduation rate increased slightly this year and ranks well above the state rate. This county also experienced an increase in the percentage of its high school graduates who obtained post-secondary education or training. Problem areas included an increase in the percentage of births that were to single teen mothers. In addition, one in five Doniphan County children lived below the poverty line.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

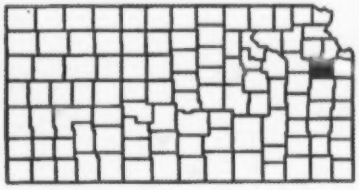
DOUGLAS

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	98,343	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	20.5%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	85.9%	86.3%
Black	4.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	2.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.9%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.8%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$37,248	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.1%	3.4%

County Seat: Lawrence



Douglas County enjoyed a reduction in the percentage of low-birth-weight babies born in the current year. Despite a slight increase this year, this county had a rate of births to mothers who lacked a high school diploma that was well below the state average. Douglas County's rate of child care availability ranked in the top 20 percent of Kansas counties. Areas of concern included an increase in the rate of juvenile court filings and a reduction in Head Start participation among eligible children.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.6	82	6.8	4	9.7	3.4
Children in Poverty	.	2,843	14.1	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.8	3,553	27.4	2	32.2	2.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	9.4	3	19.5	7	26.2	NOT SIG
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.1	3	2.5	6	7.3	58.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.8	1,023	87.0	4	85.8	0.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	76.0	677	78.2	6	74.9	3.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	69	5.7	3	7.1	11.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	26.8	78	23.7	8	53.1	11.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	30.8	4,459	30.8	2	26.6	0.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	66.0	699	82.6	4	77.7	25.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.0	112	9.4	2	18.7	3.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.6	846	82.9	8	81.8	0.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.7	138	6.8	7	7.9	36.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	37.6	2	18.0	6	55.3	32.2
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	54.7	1,114	55.2	6	59.9	1.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.6	254	12.6	7	10.9	6.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.5	584	29.0	7	24.4	23.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	46.0	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	29.1	.	.	.	20.6	

EDWARDS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.8	2	5.4	3	9.7	20.6
Children in Poverty	.	141	17.1	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	42.1	261	48.8	10	32.2	15.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	58.5	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.2	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.9	32	86.5	5	85.8	9.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.4	40	87.5	3	74.9	26.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.9	3	8.1	7	7.1	3.2
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.2	92	16.4	10	26.6	22.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	86.3	43	74.1	8	77.7	14.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.2	6	16.7	5	18.7	2.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.4	58	86.6	7	81.8	5.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.2	8	9.9	9	7.9	127.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	296.2	2	990.1	10	55.3	435.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	60.0	43	52.8	5	59.9	12.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.6	9	11.0	6	10.9	28.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	18.0	16	19.6	4	24.4	8.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.9	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	8.1	.	.	.	20.6	

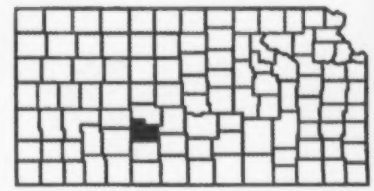
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,275	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.9%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	91.7%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	7.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$31,082	$36,488
Unemployment	2.0%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Kinsley



Edwards County experienced a substantial increase in the percentage of its children who were fully immunized by age 2. The current rate was well above the state average. This county also enjoyed a reduction in reports of child abuse and neglect. Less positive findings noted were a decline in the percentage of children pursing post-secondary education or training and a reduction in child care availability.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

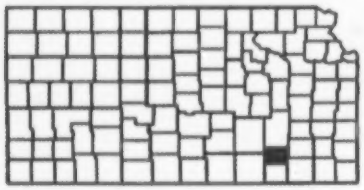
ELK

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,384	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.3%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$23,604	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.7%	3.4%

County Seat: Howard



Elk County experienced an increase in the percentage of its children who graduated from high school. The rate of births with early prenatal care also increased and was among the top 20 percent in Kansas. A substantial reduction in out-of-home placements represented another positive outcome this year. The rate of poverty among children was a concern. Almost one in three children lived in poverty. The percentage of children pursuing post-secondary education or training also declined this year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.4	0	0.0	1	9.7	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	241	31.0	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	52.5	397	54.7	10	32.2	4.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.7	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.2	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.1	19	90.5	2	85.8	5.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.1	22	67.6	10	74.9	34.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	10.1	1	4.5	3	7.1	55.2
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	7.7	34	6.6	10	26.6	13.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.5	39	62.9	10	77.7	13.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.1	3	13.6	4	18.7	24.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.4	62	89.9	5	81.8	4.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11.5	5	6.8	6	7.9	41.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	101.7	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	76.6	64	85.6	9	59.9	11.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.6	14	18.7	9	10.9	100.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	30.3	22	29.4	7	24.4	2.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	19.0	.	.	.	20.6	

ELLIS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.4	27	7.6	4	9.7	23.8
Children in Poverty	.	929	13.7	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.1	1,051	25.7	2	32.2	1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	26.7	1	19.8	7	26.2	25.8
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.5	4	11.2	9	7.3	50.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.8	335	93.8	1	85.8	1.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.9	209	85.9	3	74.9	24.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	25	7.0	6	7.1	6.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	66.6	89	87.8	3	53.1	31.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.3	1,516	33.5	1	26.6	20.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.9	274	80.4	5	77.7	0.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.5	26	7.3	2	18.7	33.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.6	341	90.7	4	81.8	1.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.9	37	5.8	6	7.9	1.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	33.3	1	39.5	7	55.3	18.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.5	415	63.5	7	59.9	69.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.6	63	9.6	6	10.9	23.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	18.6	143	21.9	5	24.4	17.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	44.1	538	46.0	9	36.9	4.2
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.8	191	16.3	4	20.6	10.0

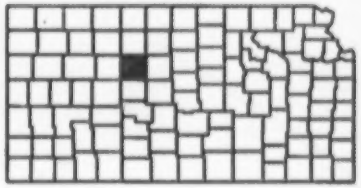
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	26,338	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.5%	86.3%
Black	0.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.8%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,279	$36,488
Unemployment	4.2%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hays



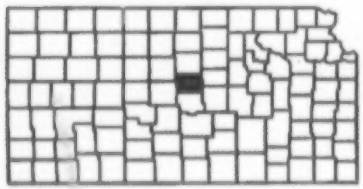
Ellis County enjoyed a slight increase to an already high rate of births that included early prenatal care. The current rate was in the top 10 percent of Kansas counties. This county also had one of the best rates of child care availability in the state. Sadly, Ellis County experienced an increase in its infant mortality rate. This county's reports of child abuse and neglect also were up sharply this year.

ELLSWORTH

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,220	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.5%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	92.0%	86.3%
Black	2.9%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$31,314	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.3%	3.4%

County Seat: Ellsworth



Ellsworth County experienced a further increase this year in a generally high rate of early childhood immunizations. The percentage of births that included early prenatal care also continued to increase. Although down slightly this year, Ellsworth continued to enjoy a high rate of high school graduations. Concerns for this county included a decline in the rate of post-secondary education or training and an increase in reports of child abuse and neglect.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse	Percent Change Over Time: Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING							
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.9	3	4.5	2	9.7		35.0
Children in Poverty	.	199	13.8	3	15.4		
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.9	373	28.9	3	32.2		10.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY							
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.5	0	.	.	26.2		
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.6	1	14.9	10	7.3	28.9	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	60	90.9	2	85.8		12.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.7	42	86.8	3	74.9		17.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.1	6	9.0	8	7.1	10.4	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION							
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	84.0	15	81.0	3	53.1		
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	29.6	296	32.1	2	26.6		8.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.7	57	67.9	10	77.7	4.1	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.4	3	4.5	1	18.7		
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.5	84	91.3	4	81.8		
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING							
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.3	5	3.6	3	7.9		16.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	94.8	0	.	.	55.3		
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	57.2	97	69.3	8	59.9	21.3	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.1	15	10.7	6	10.9		23.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL							
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	47.0	57	40.7	9	24.4		13.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	165	40.1	7	36.9		
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	64	15.6	4	20.6		

FINNEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.7	118	13.3	9	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	1,975	15.4	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.7	4,070	46.6	10	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.1	6	58.8	8	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.9	1	1.1	6	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	57.8	550	62.1	10	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	53.0	614	70.3	10	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	73	8.2	7	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	83.4	176	69.9	4	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.6	1,788	18.6	9	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.7	232	69.3	9	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	44.3	418	47.4	10	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	57.5	335	58.2	10	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12.8	81	6.1	6	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	65.9	1	29.8	6	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	30.5	719	55.2	5	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.5	70	5.4	4	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.2	215	16.5	3	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.5	378	28.8	2	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	21.0	269	20.5	8	20.6	

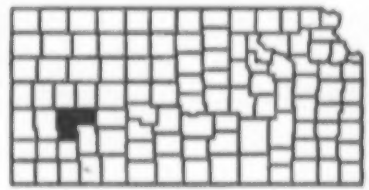
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	37,409	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	34.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	60.7%	86.3%
Black	1.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	4.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	33.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$36,823	$36,488
Unemployment	2.9%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Garden City



Finney County saw a sizable reduction in the rate of juvenile court filings in the current year. In addition, the percentage of children who reported recent alcohol use declined this year and was among the lowest in Kansas. The area of education generated some concerns. The rate of high school graduation was quite low, among the worst in Kansas. In addition, the percent of high school graduates who pursued further education or training declined.

FORD

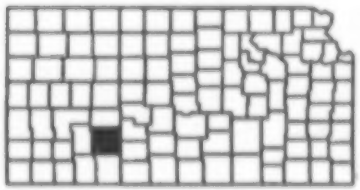
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	29,587	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	74.3%	86.3%
Black	2.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	20.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,434	$36,488
Unemployment	2.3%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Dodge City



Ford County enjoyed reductions this year in both infant mortality and deaths to children age 1 to 14. The child abuse and neglect confirmation rate also was down in the current year. The percent of students graduating from high school increased, although that rate remained below the state average. Additional concerns include a continuation of a very high rate of births to mothers who lack a high school diploma and a rate of births with early prenatal care that ranks in the bottom 10 percent of Kansas counties.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.7	83	12.4	8	9.7	16.4
Children in Poverty	.	1,565	17.8	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	48.6	3,286	53.6	10	32.2	30.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	45.1	2	29.6	7	26.2	34.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.5	5	7.5	7	7.3	21.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	66.4	427	63.8	10	85.8	3.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.9	359	72.0	9	74.9	18.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	52	7.8	6	7.1	9.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	117.1	216	113.2	2	53.1	3.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.5	1,583	24.6	5	26.6	8.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.6	249	69.0	9	77.7	11.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	44.4	316	47.3	10	18.7	9.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	71.5	361	78.3	9	81.8	9.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.9	65	7.3	7	7.9	6.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	125.1	3	115.2	8	55.3	7.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	50.5	539	61.2	6	59.9	21.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.4	59	6.7	4	10.9	9.2
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	49.2	364	41.3	9	24.4	16.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.0	395	38.8	6	36.9	7.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	20.4	192	18.8	6	20.6	7.6

FRANKLIN

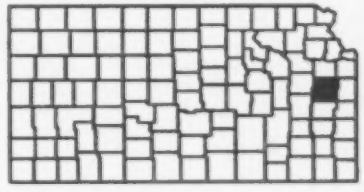
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.3	33	8.9	5	9.7	14.1
Children in Poverty	.	1,190	16.7	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.7	1,291	27.1	2	32.2	2.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	45.7	1	18.6	7	26.2	59.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.6	3	8.1	8	7.3	5.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.1	320	86.7	5	85.8	1.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	61.4	207	72.2	9	74.9	17.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	25	6.7	5	7.1	5.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	22.4	20	15.4	8	53.1	31.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.7	952	19.2	9	26.6	18.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	68.8	221	75.7	7	77.7	10.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.7	67	18.2	6	18.7	2.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.2	292	86.9	7	81.8	0.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.8	78	11.0	9	7.9	34.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	43.3	2	98.0	8	55.3	77.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.3	457	64.9	7	59.9	53.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.9	47	6.7	4	10.9	84.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	26.3	168	23.9	6	24.4	7.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	20.9	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	9.1	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	25,136	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.0%	86.3%
Black	1.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,879	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.8%	3.4%

County Seat: Ottawa



Franklin County enjoyed a reduction in the rate of low-birth-weight deliveries. The percentage of births that included early prenatal care increased slightly as well. Although child abuse and neglect confirmations were up somewhat this year, the current rate was well below the state average. Concerns included an increase in the rate of out-of-home placements and a reduction in child care availability.

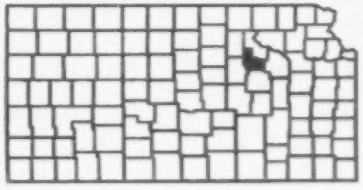
GEARY

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	24,911	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	63.0%	86.3%
Black	24.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	5.8%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	9.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,857	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	5.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Junction City



Geary County continued to enjoy a rate of births to mothers who lacked a high school degree that was well below the state average. This county also saw an increase in the percentage of eligible children who participated in Head Start. Reports of recent alcohol use also declined and remained below the state average. Childhood poverty is a concern. More than one in four Geary County children lived below the poverty line. Sadly, this county experienced a substantial increase in the rate of infant mortality during the current year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.3	44	7.5	4	9.7	10.7
Children in Poverty	.	1,865	26.2	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	57.8	3,631	56.3	10	32.2	2.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	65.0	1	18.5	6	26.2	71.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.0	15	25.4	10	7.3	93.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	76.1	458	77.6	8	85.8	2.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.8	396	71.9	9	74.9	20.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.9	54	9.2	8	7.1	3.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	84.5	239	101.1	2	53.1	19.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.0	1,327	25.2	4	26.6	5.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	57.8	179	70.2	9	77.7	21.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.8	80	13.6	4	18.7	1.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	65.9	255	69.1	10	81.8	4.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.5	65	9.6	9	7.9	13.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	137.2	2	102.7	8	55.3	25.2
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	83.7	628	90.9	9	59.9	8.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.9	100	14.5	8	10.9	78.4
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	47.9	405	58.6	10	24.4	22.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	25.3	250	20.9	1	36.9	17.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	16.4	207	17.3	5	20.6	5.5

GOVE

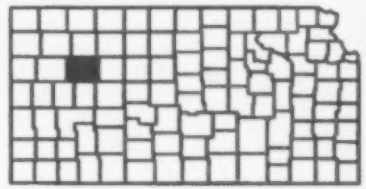
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	2.2	0	0.0	1	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	102	12.7	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.1	208	28.2	3	32.2	22.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	65.1	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.5	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.9	31	100.0	1	85.8	15.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.4	32	96.7	1	74.9	54.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	0	0.0	1	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	122.1	17	172.2	1	53.1	41.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.2	114	22.1	7	26.6	4.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.9	45	91.8	1	77.7	4.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.0	6	19.4	7	18.7	76.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	98.3	49	98.0	1	81.8	0.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.0	2	2.6	2	7.9	12.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	97.3	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	26.0	20	26.0	1	59.9	10.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	10.2	3	3.9	3	10.9	32.9
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.4	15	19.5	4	24.4	35.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,028	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	99.3%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,725	$36,488
Unemployment (1989 data provided by Kansas Dept. of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.3%	3.4%

County Seat: Gove



Gove County achieved a number of positive educational outcomes. This county continued its excellent performance in high school graduation. In addition, the rate of participation in post-secondary education or training ranked in the top 10 percent in Kansas. There were also no recorded births without early prenatal care. Of concern was the rate of child care availability, still below the state rate. In addition, juvenile court filings increased in the current year.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

GRAHAM

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,118	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.0%	86.3%
Black	3.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,829	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Hill City

Graham County continued its excellent performance in the percentage of births that included early prenatal care. The current rate was in the top 10 percent statewide. This county also obtained a very substantial increase in the rate of early childhood immunizations and an increase in Head Start participation. Areas of concern included a drop in the percentage of high school graduates who sought post-secondary education or training. The percentage of low-birth-weight babies born in the current year also increased.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.6	2	7.4	4	9.7	13.8
Children in Poverty	.	156	19.2	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.4	198	39.4	7	32.2	2.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	30.5	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.8	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.2	25	92.6	1	85.8	10.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	46.5	21	91.3	1	74.9	95.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.3	2	7.4	6	7.1	18.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	69.0	17	122.3	1	53.1	77.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.6	143	27.0	3	26.6	5.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.0	36	76.6	7	77.7	8.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.9	1	3.7	1	18.7	64.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.3	47	90.4	5	81.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.9	8	10.7	9	7.9	36.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	98.6	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	31.8	41	53.2	5	59.9	67.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.0	6	7.8	5	10.9	30.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	26.8	18	23.3	6	24.4	13.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.3	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	10.3	.	.	.	20.6	

GRANT

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	15.3	18	11.3	7	9.7	26.4
Children in Poverty	.	354	12.6	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.4	720	40.4	8	32.2	2.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	56.6	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.7	2	12.5	9	7.3	16.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	71.3	129	81.1	7	85.8	13.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.7	94	77.3	6	74.9	27.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.6	14	8.8	8	7.1	14.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	109.9	52	146.8	1	53.1	33.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.7	327	16.8	9	26.6	9.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.0	82	75.2	7	77.7	9.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	42.4	78	48.8	10	18.7	15.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.4	109	79.6	9	81.8	3.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.7	7	2.6	2	7.9	44.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	91.7	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.6	151	55.3	6	59.9	175.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.4	1	0.4	1	10.9	75.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	21.7	70	25.6	6	24.4	18.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	48.3	205	49.5	10	36.9	2.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	32.5	108	26.1	10	20.6	19.8

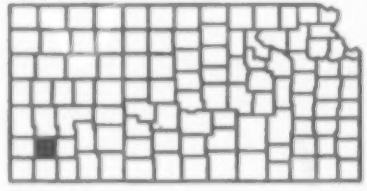
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,885	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	34.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	68.9%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	29.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$43,557	$36,488
Unemployment	3.8%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ulysses



Grant County saw an increase in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. Although still below the state average, this county also obtained an increase in the percentage of births that included early prenatal care. There were concerns. The percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school degree increased and was among the highest rate in Kansas. Juvenile court filings were also up this year, placing this county above the state average on this indicator.

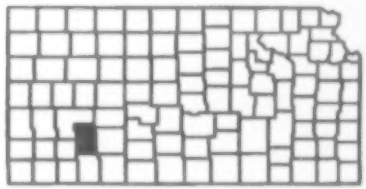
GRAY

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,579	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	92.7%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$39,728	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Cimarron



Gray County had one of the lowest rates of childhood poverty in Kansas. Other good news included the educational outcomes for Gray County children. The rate of high school graduation improved this year, and the rate of post-secondary education or training was in the top 10 percent statewide. Areas of concern included the percentage of births to mothers who had less than a high school degree; Gray County ranked in the bottom 10 percent. In addition, births with early prenatal care still lagged behind the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.6	4	4.7	2	9.7	15.3
Children in Poverty	.	206	11.3	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.2	410	32.0	4	32.2	13.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	14.9	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.1	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.2	66	77.6	8	85.8	0.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.5	87	81.4	5	74.9	17.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.7	6	7.1	6	7.1	50.2
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	48.9	25	118.7	2	53.1	142.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.1	324	26.3	3	26.6	14.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.8	81	91.0	1	77.7	16.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	33.8	36	43.4	10	18.7	28.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.4	89	95.7	2	81.8	12.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.0	6	3.4	3	7.9	65.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	133.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.5	31	17.5	1	59.9	20.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	0.0	1	0.6	1	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.4	22	12.4	2	24.4	44.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.6	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	9.0	.	.	.	20.6	

GREELEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.4	2	11.8	8	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	51	10.1	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.2	97	30.7	3	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	47.9	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	73.7	8	47.1	10	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.0	14	75.0	7	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.4	1	5.9	4	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.2	82	22.3	6	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.5	34	89.5	2	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	28.7	9	52.9	10	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.2	38	90.5	5	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.3	1	2.1	2	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	204.1	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.8	16	32.8	2	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.0	0	0.0	1	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	2.7	1	2.0	1	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	15.6	.	.	.	20.6	

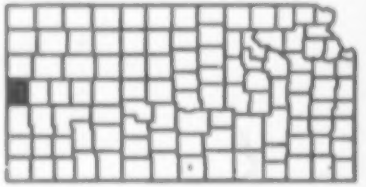
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	1,648	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	89.6%	86.3%
Black	2.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	10.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,125	$36,488
Unemployment	3.1%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Tribune



Greeley County children benefited from a low rate of childhood poverty, a figure ranking in the top 10 percent of Kansas counties. This county also improved an already high percentage of children who sought post-secondary education and training and achieved a reduction in low-birth-weight deliveries. Areas of concern included the rate of births to mothers who had less than a high school degree. That rate increased this year from an already high base rate. Births with early prenatal care also were much lower this year.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

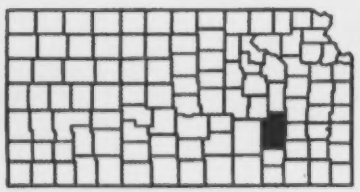
GREENWOOD

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,961	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.0%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$27,401	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	5.5%	3.4%

County Seat: Eureka



Greenwood County achieved a substantial increase in the percentage of children fully immunized by age 2. The current year rate ranked in the top 20 percent statewide. The percentage of young persons from this county who reported ever using drugs other than alcohol was well below the state rate. Concerns included an increase in the percentage of births that were to single teen mothers and a decline in the percentage of high school graduates who sought post-secondary education or training.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.7	11	14.1	10	9.7	20.9
Children in Poverty	.	458	22.8	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.1	474	39.7	7	32.2	0.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	1	69.8	9	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.9	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	81.7	61	79.2	8	85.8	3.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.1	69	89.5	2	74.9	43.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.2	8	10.3	9	7.1	42.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.5	222	17.3	9	26.6	6.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.1	53	68.8	10	77.7	7.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.1	16	20.5	8	18.7	2.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.5	77	83.7	8	81.8	5.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.5	14	7.4	7	7.9	1.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	135.5	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.1	166	86.1	9	59.9	91.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.1	28	14.5	8	10.9	33.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	30.3	95	49.3	10	24.4	62.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.0	75	38.6	6	36.9	10.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.1	26	13.7	3	20.6	12.9

HAMILTON

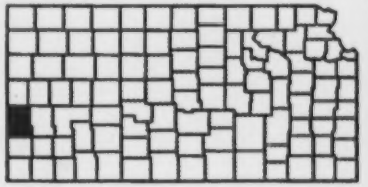
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.3	3	6.4	3	9.7	43.4
Children in Poverty	.	119	19.6	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	39.6	228	42.6	9	32.2	7.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	45.6	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	14.1	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	76.3	33	70.2	10	85.8	7.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	74.7	24	74.1	8	74.9	0.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	10.6	4	8.5	7	7.1	19.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.7	98	23.8	5	26.6	3.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	87.9	30	96.8	1	77.7	10.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.8	17	36.2	10	18.7	45.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.9	31	88.6	6	81.8	9.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.5	10	16.5	10	7.9	201.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.4	24	39.9	2	59.9	105.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.1	9	15.0	2	24.4	24.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.7	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	11.7	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,374	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	90.0%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	8.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,413	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Syracuse



Hamilton County celebrated an increase in the rate of post-secondary education and training participation among its high school graduates. The more recent rate was among the top 10 percent statewide. The county also enjoyed a reduction in the percentage of births that occurred to single teen mothers. Concerns included a substantial increase in out-of-home placement rate and an increase in the percentage of births that occurred to mothers who lacked a high school degree.

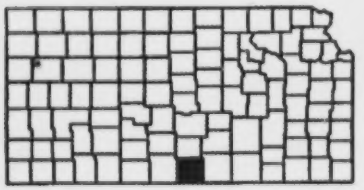
HARPER

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,305	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.0%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,760	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.1%	3.4%

County Seat: Anthony



Harper County improved its already high rate of early childhood immunizations. This county also achieved an increase in child care availability, with a current year rate that exceeded the state figure. Concerns for Harper County included an increase in the rate of out-of-home placements and close to a 20 percent hike in the percentage of births to mothers who lacked a high school diploma.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.3	6	8.6	5	9.7	17.1
Children in Poverty	.	295	18.6	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.3	507	41.6	8	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.0	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.0	57	81.4	7	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.8	52	78.2	6	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.3	1	1.4	1	7.1	66.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.5	318	29.9	2	26.6	8.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.4	69	76.7	7	77.7	1.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.9	15	21.4	8	18.7	19.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.6	90	83.3	8	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.2	17	11.3	9	7.9	117.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	256.4	1	246.3	9	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	38.6	103	66.9	7	59.9	73.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.9	21	13.6	7	10.9	30.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.0	35	22.7	5	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.9	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	16.5	.	.	.	20.6	

HARVEY

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.3	54	11.8	8	9.7	41.9
Children in Poverty	.	1,153	12.9	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.5	1,794	30.5	3	32.2	3.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.9	1	14.9	6	26.2	34.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.6	1	2.2	6	7.3	71.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.9	391	85.7	5	85.8	0.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.3	251	71.4	9	74.9	2.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.2	25	5.5	3	7.1	4.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	59.3	67	56.3	6	53.1	3.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.2	1,467	24.5	5	26.6	13.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.7	268	71.3	9	77.7	10.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.8	82	17.9	6	18.7	13.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.9	376	85.5	7	81.8	3.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.5	60	6.8	7	7.9	8.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	73.7	2	69.2	7	55.3	6.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	27.2	425	48.4	4	59.9	77.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.4	83	9.4	6	10.9	12.2
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	25.9	261	29.7	8	24.4	14.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	25.5	333	28.3	2	36.9	10.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	18.5	233	19.8	7	20.6	7.0

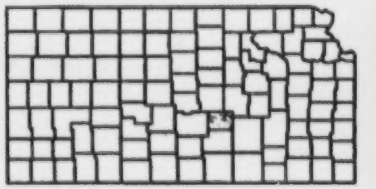
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	34,261	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	88.9%	86.3%
Black	2.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.9%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	8.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$39,525	$36,488
Unemployment	3.6%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Newton



Harvey County children enjoyed a relatively low rate of childhood poverty compared to the rest of the state. Youth from this county reported recent use of alcohol at a rate well below the state average, and high school graduations increased this year. Although there was slight increase in the current year, the percentage of low-birth-weight deliveries remained below the state figure. Harper County concerns included an increase in juvenile court filings and in reports of child abuse and neglect.

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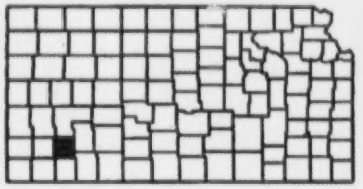
HASKELL

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,042	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	79.5%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	19.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$42,696	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Sublette



Haskell County enjoyed a substantial jump this year in the percentage of children who were fully immunized by age 2. This county also saw an increase in high school graduations and posted a rate in the top 20 percent of all Kansas counties. Despite a slight decline this year, Haskell County continued with a very high rate of post-secondary education or training. Concerns included a continuing low rate of births with early prenatal care, although that figure did improve in the current year. Head Start participation declined in the most recent year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.2	8	9.8	6	9.7	57.4
Children in Poverty	.	176	13.4	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.9	344	36.4	6	32.2	14.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	60.8	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.7	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	60.9	61	75.3	9	85.8	23.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.9	44	73.8	8	74.9	32.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.8	3	3.7	2	7.1	53.2
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	99.7	12	68.9	4	53.1	30.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.7	188	20.6	7	26.6	5.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	86.9	48	84.2	3	77.7	3.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	35.2	25	30.5	9	18.7	13.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.8	57	96.6	2	81.8	7.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.1	1	0.8	1	7.9	30.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	120.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.5	39	30.1	1	59.9	46.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.3	2	1.5	2	10.9	33.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	9.4	16	12.3	2	24.4	31.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	50	45.5	9	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	15	13.6	3	20.6	

HODGEMAN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Locks Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.3	4	14.8	10	9.7	103.2
Children in Poverty	.	71	11.5	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.4	137	28.0	2	32.2	5.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children		1	209.6	10	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.4	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.4	17	63.0	10	85.8	23.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.5	23	88.0	2	74.9	19.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.3	1	3.7	2	7.1	55.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.0	70	16.3	10	26.6	16.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.9	28	90.3	1	77.7	5.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.5	4	14.8	5	18.7	20.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.1	31	100.0	1	81.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.3	0	0.0	1	7.9	100.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	278.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	13.8	12	19.5	1	59.9	41.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	0.0	1	1.6	2	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	6.2	7	11.4	2	24.4	84.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	40	40.4	7	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	7	7.1	1	20.6	

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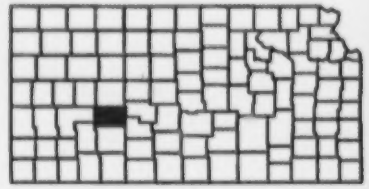
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,235	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.5%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	96.3%	86.3%
Black	1.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,381	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.5%	3.4%

County Seat: **Jetmore**



Hodgeman County can boast great educational success by its young people. This county had a 100 percent graduation rate in the most recent year. In addition, the rate of participation in post-secondary education and training was among the top 10 percent statewide. Hodgeman County also improved on its already high rate of early childhood immunizations. Problem areas include the rate of births with early prenatal care. The current rate was among the worst in Kansas. Child care availability also remained well below the state average.

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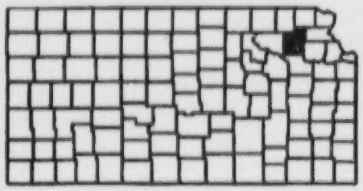
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	12,177	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	92.6%	86.3%
Black	0.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	5.8%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,498	$36,488
Unemployment	2.6%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Holton



Jackson County maintained a high rate of births that included early prenatal care. The current year rate was in the top 10 percent statewide. This county also had a slight reduction in the percentage of births in which the mother had earned less than a high school diploma. That rate was well below the state figure. Concerns for Jackson County included a decline in the already low rate of graduates who pursued post-secondary education or training. Sadly, the infant mortality rate increased this year as well.

JACKSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.6	7	4.7	2	9.7	51.5
Children in Poverty	.	572	16.7	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.7	649	27.0	2	32.2	15.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	54.1	2	77.6	9	26.2	43.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.7	6	40.0	10	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.5	138	92.0	1	85.8	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	79.3	125	83.5	4	74.9	5.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.9	9	6.0	4	7.1	23.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	89.7	38	66.1	4	53.1	26.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.6	545	23.7	5	26.6	14.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	68.6	116	65.9	10	77.7	3.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.5	18	12.0	3	18.7	3.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.4	176	91.7	4	81.8	1.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.5	17	5.1	5	7.9	8.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	109.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	43.3	157	46.6	3	59.9	7.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.9	24	7.1	5	10.9	20.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.3	67	19.9	4	24.4	14.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	43.2	171	38.9	6	36.9	10.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	24.9	97	22.0	8	20.6	11.5

JEFFERSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse — Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.4	17	7.4	4	9.7	11.3
Children in Poverty	.	560	11.2	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	23.3	998	23.2	1	32.2	10.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.5	2	53.5	8	26.2	107.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	14.6	0	0.0	6	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.0	204	89.5	3	85.8	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.7	186	81.4	5	74.9	12.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	17	7.4	6	7.1	13.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.7	37	66.3	4	53.1	16.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.5	829	24.6	5	26.6	0.2
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	68.7	251	77.0	7	77.7	12.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.2	26	11.4	3	18.7	6.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.7	326	89.1	6	81.8	1.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9.3	40	8.3	8	7.9	10.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	31.6	2	145.1	9	55.3	161.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.2	285	58.5	6	59.9	29.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.4	65	13.4	7	10.9	8.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.2	113	23.2	5	24.4	28.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	40.7	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	23.0	.	.	.	20.6	

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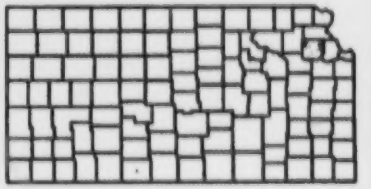
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	18,146	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.0%	86.3%
Black	0.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$41,130	$36,488
Unemployment (1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.3%	3.4%

County Seat: Oskaloosa



Jefferson County children enjoyed relatively low rates of childhood poverty, a figure in the top 10 percent statewide. These children also benefited from an increase in the rate of early childhood immunizations. Jefferson County also attained further reductions in the percentage of births to mothers who lack a high school degree. That current figure is well below the state rate. Concerns for this county included an increase in reports of child abuse and neglect. The rate of out-of-home placements, while slightly improved in the most recent year, remained above the state rate.

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A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

JEWELL

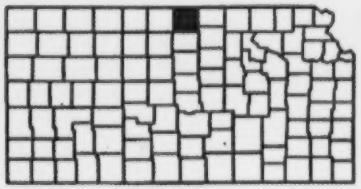
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,787	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.9%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	99.4%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,555	$36,488
Unemployment	1.5%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Mankato



Jewell County celebrated a number of positive education outcomes. The high school graduation rate increased and was among the top 10 percent in Kansas. The percentage of students who sought post-secondary education or training also was well above the state average, and the rate of births to mothers who lacked a high school degree was among the lowest in the state. There were concerns. The percentage of low-birth-weight babies increased to a rate above the state average. The child abuse and neglect confirmation rate also took a steep jump.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.1	0	0.0	1	9.7	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	163	17.6	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.2	257	40.3	8	32.2	0.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	84.5	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.7	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.6	27	79.4	8	85.8	10.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.1	32	85.2	4	74.9	21.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	3.4	4	11.8	10	7.1	233.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	175.3	17	116.3	2	53.1	33.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.7	113	19.3	8	26.6	31.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.4	51	85.0	3	77.7	0.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.3	2	5.9	1	18.7	6.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.6	60	98.4	1	81.8	1.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.8	0	0.0	1	7.9	100.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	32.0	40	46.1	3	59.9	43.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.9	22	25.3	10	10.9	175.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.7	8	9.2	1	24.4	27.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.6	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	7.0	.	.	.	20.6	

JOHNSON

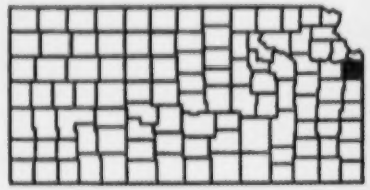
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.3	224	3.4	1	9.7	2.7
Children in Poverty	.	6,209	5.4	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	8.7	5,859	7.8	1	32.2	10.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	15.6	8	9.2	6	26.2	41.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.3	34	5.1	7	7.3	3.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	94.4	6,283	95.2	1	85.8	10.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	75.8	4,041	78.9	6	74.9	4.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	398	6.0	4	7.1	4.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	49.0	243	34.6	8	53.1	29.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	36.0	27,969	34.7	1	26.6	3.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.8	3,712	80.9	4	77.7	2.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.7	354	5.4	1	18.7	5.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.3	4,589	90.6	5	81.8	2.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.1	250	2.1	2	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	41.4	11	34.6	6	55.3	16.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.9	3,128	27.3	1	59.9	34.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.9	532	4.6	3	10.9	31.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	24.9	2,749	24.0	6	24.4	3.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.6	2,514	33.9	3	36.9	9.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	26.6	1,779	24.0	9	20.6	9.7

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	440,198	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	92.3%	86.3%
Black	2.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$59,870	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Olathe



Johnson County children experienced low rates of childhood poverty; slightly more than one in 20 Johnson County children lived below the poverty line. This county also boasted a very low rate of births to single teens, a rate in the top 10 percent of all Kansas counties. Additional good news can be noted in the very low rate of births to mothers who did not have a high school degree. Of concern, while child abuse and neglect reports remained well below the state rate, they increased close to 25 percent in the past year.

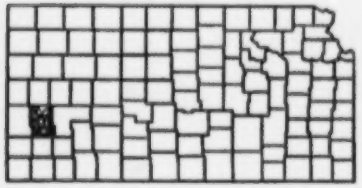
KEARNY

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,137	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	33.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	75.6%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	23.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$38,950	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.7%	3.4%

County Seat: Lakin



Kearny County experienced an increase in its rate of high school graduations. The latest rate was well above the state figure. Reports of recent alcohol use by Kearny County children was below the state level, as were both reported and confirmed child abuse and neglect rates. There were concerns. The percent of births with early prenatal care ranked in the lowest 10 percent of all Kansas counties. The percentage of births that occurred to mothers who lacked a high school diploma continued to be quite high, also ranking in the bottom 10 percent.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.8	8	8.6	5	9.7	11.8
Children in Poverty	.	230	16.5	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.0	456	39.4	7	32.2	13.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.9	1	93.9	10	26.2	154.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	66.2	64	68.8	10	85.8	14.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.6	68	75.6	7	74.9	15.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	4	4.3	2	7.1	25.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	50.4	25	92.4	3	53.1	83.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.7	172	17.8	9	26.6	6.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.8	54	77.1	7	77.7	7.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	40.6	38	40.9	10	18.7	0.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.3	70	90.9	4	81.8	9.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9.3	4	2.9	3	7.9	68.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	241.5	1	286.5	10	55.3	18.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.7	43	31.5	2	59.9	48.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	4.4	7	5.1	3	10.9	16.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	33.2	54	39.6	9	24.4	19.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	78	33.9	4	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	30	13.2	3	20.6	

KINGMAN

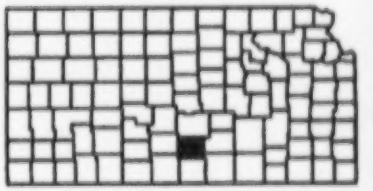
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.0	8	8.2	5	9.7	8.1
Children in Poverty	.	349	14.8	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.0	584	36.1	6	32.2	9.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	78.2	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.1	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	84.6	85	87.6	4	85.8	3.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.4	73	83.1	4	74.9	18.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.2	4	4.1	2	7.1	42.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.5	24	65.1	5	53.1	11.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	14.8	308	19.4	8	26.6	31.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.5	86	78.2	6	77.7	5.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.9	17	17.5	6	18.7	17.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.9	110	90.9	4	81.8	5.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.8	7	3.0	3	7.9	38.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	194.9	2	302.1	10	55.3	55.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	34.8	85	36.3	2	59.9	4.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.1	13	5.6	4	10.9	100.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	31.8	65	27.8	7	24.4	12.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	43.2	147	43.1	9	36.9	0.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	16.3	64	18.9	6	20.6	15.5

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	8,651	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.9%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$35,312	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Service)	3.7%	3.4%

County Seat: Kingman



Kingman County continued to see improvement in the rate of early childhood immunizations; the latest rate exceeded the state average. The rate of out-of-home placements also declined this year. Although the availability of child care remained well below the state rate, this county attained a substantial increase in the most recent year. Of concern was a steep increase in child abuse and neglect confirmations, although the rate remained well below the state level.

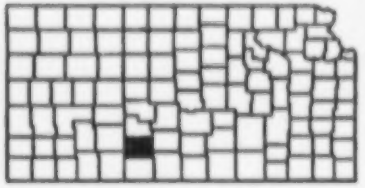
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

KIOWA

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,351	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.0%	86.3%
Black	0.6%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,148	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Greensburg



Kiowa County enjoyed a substantial improvement in the rate of early childhood immunizations. The latest rate was among the top 10 percent in Kansas. This county also experienced a reduction in the rate of juvenile court filings in the most recent year, as well as a decline in births to mothers who lacked a high school diploma. Areas of concern include a rate of births with early prenatal care that continued to lag behind the state level and an increase in low-birth-weight babies.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.9	2	5.1	2	9.7	33.3
Children in Poverty	.	119	13.4	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	32.2	164	31.5	4	32.2	2.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	29.5	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.8	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	77.0	30	78.9	8	85.8	2.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.8	30	92.9	1	74.9	27.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	4	10.3	9	7.1	34.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.2	140	25.6	4	26.6	23.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.5	47	78.3	6	77.7	3.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	19.1	5	12.8	4	18.7	32.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.4	60	89.6	6	81.8	5.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.3	1	1.2	1	7.9	83.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	72.3	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	46.5	43	51.3	4	59.9	16.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.6	13	15.5	8	10.9	23.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.9	14	16.7	3	24.4	20.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	20.6	

LABETTE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	13.0	40	14.1	9	9.7	-8.1
Children in Poverty	.	1,356	22.2	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	38.4	1,709	39.2	7	32.2	2.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	51.5	0	0.0	6	26.2	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.5	2	7.0	7	7.3	-100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.1	254	89.4	3	85.8	3.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.6	166	63.9	10	74.9	36.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	32	11.3	9	7.1	-75.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	74.2	88	64.0	5	53.1	13.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.1	961	23.5	6	26.6	-6.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.7	235	78.6	6	77.7	0.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.8	59	20.8	8	18.7	16.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.4	299	81.5	9	81.8	-1.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.7	41	6.9	7	7.9	20.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	63.2	1	49.8	7	55.3	21.2
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	95.8	656	109.0	10	59.9	-13.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	41.8	267	44.4	10	10.9	-9.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.7	146	24.3	6	24.4	-23.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.3	151	35.3	4	36.9	10.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	22.1	130	30.3	10	20.6	-37.1

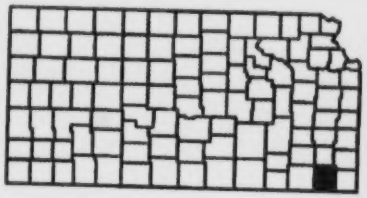
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	22,941	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	90.0%	86.3%
Black	4.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,369	$36,488
Unemployment	5.2%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Oswego



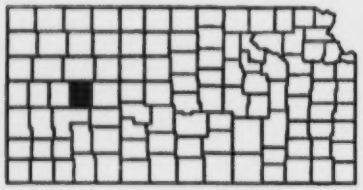
Labette County attained a reduction in the percentage of young people who reported having used alcohol in the past month. The rate of births that included early prenatal care improved this year as well and was above the state level. Concerns for Labette County included increases in already high rates of child abuse and neglect reports and confirmations. Despite improving this year, the childhood immunization rate for this county continued below the state level.

LANE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,174	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.0%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.8%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$31,953	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.6%	3.4%

County Seat: Dighton



Lane County experienced a slight increase in its already high percentage of children who attended post-secondary education or training. This year's figure ranked in the top 20 percent for Kansas counties. The county also improved on its rate of early childhood immunizations. Reports of child abuse and neglect remained low, with a figure in the top 10 percent of all counties. There were concerns. Although the rate remained above the state level, high school graduation rates declined in the most recent year. Lane County also saw a substantial increase in the rate of juvenile court filings.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	3.3	1	5.0	2	9.7	53.8
Children in Poverty	.	91	14.8	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.0	145	31.8	4	32.2	13.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.1	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.7	15	75.0	9	85.8	10.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.6	17	88.9	2	74.9	20.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	1.6	2	10.0	9	7.1	53.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.4	92	22.9	6	26.6	3.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.7	26	86.7	2	77.7	2.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	4.9	2	10.0	3	18.7	105.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.3	30	88.2	6	81.8	7.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.1	4	7.5	8	7.9	146.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	152.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.8	15	26.6	1	59.9	58.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.0	8	14.2	7	10.9	146.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	14.3	21	37.3	9	24.4	161.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.3	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	7.6	.	.	.	20.6	

LEAVENWORTH

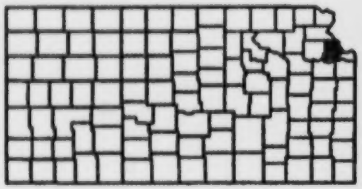
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.5	87	10.0	7	9.7	18.1
Children in Poverty	.	2,343	12.1	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	21.1	2,416	20.5	1	32.2	3.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	22.0	4	27.3	7	26.2	24.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.8	6	6.9	7	7.3	1.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.6	781	90.1	3	85.8	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.8	590	76.8	7	74.9	10.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.5	68	7.8	7	7.1	20.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	41.6	68	28.4	8	53.1	31.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.6	2,218	16.7	9	26.6	11.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.4	564	77.4	7	77.7	6.8
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.6	101	11.6	3	18.7	7.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.5	729	87.1	7	81.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.8	104	5.4	5	7.9	6.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	40.8	0	.	.	55.3	100.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	35.3	917	48.2	4	59.9	36.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.4	148	7.8	5	10.9	7.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.1	374	19.6	4	24.4	11.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.6	557	33.0	3	36.9	1.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	18.8	304	18.0	6	20.6	4.4

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	71,766	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.5%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	81.7%	86.3%
Black	11.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$44,056	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.5%	3.4%

County Seat: Leavenworth



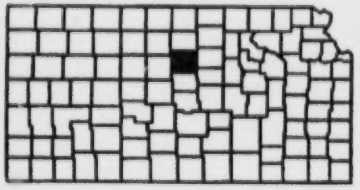
Leavenworth County continued to achieve a high rate of births that received early prenatal care. This latest year's result remained above the state average. Births to mothers who lacked a high school diploma declined this year as well, and the high school graduation rate increased compared with base years. Problem areas included a rate of child care availability that remained well below the state average. Reports of child abuse and neglect also increased this year.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,338	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.8%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,563	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.6%	3.4%

County Seat: Lincoln



Lincoln County enjoyed a number of positive educational outcomes. The rate with which Lincoln County youth attended post-secondary education was among the top 10 percent in Kansas. High school graduation rates continued to remain quite high in the most current year as well. Of concern, this county still has no Head Start program. In addition, although the rates remained close to the state average this county actually experienced a slight decline in childhood immunizations this year, a very rare finding.

LINCOLN

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.2	2	5.6	3.	9.7	33.3
Children in Poverty	.	129	15.7	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	32.3	200	31.6	4	32.2	2.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	1	27.8	10	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.3	32	88.9	4	85.8	1.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	81.1	30	74.5	8	74.9	8.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.8	3	8.3	7	7.1	17.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.6	130	25.6	4	26.6	10.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.3	61	93.8	1	77.7	21.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.2	7	19.4	7	18.7	73.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.9	65	92.9	3	81.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.7	3	3.8	4	7.9	33.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	95.1	1	456.6	10	55.3	71.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	31.6	55	69.1	7	59.9	11.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.7	8	10.1	6	10.9	14.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	18.3	13	16.3	3	24.4	10.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	44	34.9	4	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	29	22.8	9	20.6	

LINN

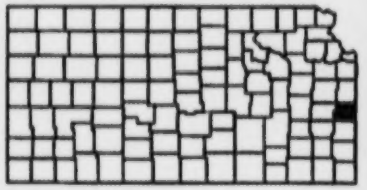
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.9	13	11.7	8	9.7	11.3
Children in Poverty	.	493	20.2	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	35.9	709	35.4	5	32.2	11.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	45.0	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.2	2	18.0	10	7.3	[19.2]
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.5	95	85.6	6	85.8	12.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	54.8	66	67.3	10	74.9	22.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	17	15.3	10	7.1	[15.2]
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	29.4	20	43.9	7	53.1	48.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	13.8	274	17.2	9	26.6	24.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	65.9	80	65.6	10	77.7	0.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.2	25	22.5	8	18.7	23.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.8	122	87.1	6	81.8	1.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.7	5	2.1	2	7.9	24.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	91.3	1	135.9	9	55.3	48.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	44.6	158	65.7	7	59.9	47.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	10.1	16	6.7	4	10.9	33.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.3	72	29.9	8	24.4	5.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.2	66	45.8	9	36.9	26.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	18.3	39	26.6	10	20.6	45.2

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	9,296	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.1%	86.3%
Black	0.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.0%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,802	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	7.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Mound City



Linn County can be proud of ranking in the state's top 20 percent on out-of-home placement rates, where notable improvement was also shown. This county also made progress in the areas of immunized kindergartners; the child abuse substantiation rate; and the percent of children approved for free school meals. Linn County suffered setbacks in several areas, possibly the most significant being infant mortality rate, percent of low-birth-weight babies and births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Special attention should also be paid to the Social Behavior indicators, which all increased, indicating worsened conditions in these areas.

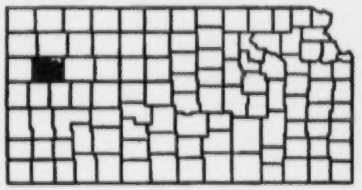
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

LOGAN

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,938	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.0%	86.3%
Black	0.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,148	$36,488
Unemployment (1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.5%	3.4%

County Seat: Oakley



Logan County made positive movement in increasing child-care availability, the percent of youth pursuing post-secondary education and training and the high school graduation rate. This county showed an increase, though small, in the immunization rate. Juvenile court filings fell, as did the percent of youth using alcohol in the past 30 days. Although Logan County experienced a substantial decrease in the percent of births to teens, the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree increased rather substantially. Another area of concern is the decrease experienced in early prenatal care.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.4	3	6.7	4	9.7	28.9
Children in Poverty	.	139	17.5	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	38.5	234	40.7	8	32.2	5.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.7	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	12.5	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.7	38	84.4	6	85.8	4.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.4	14	75.0	7	74.9	3.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.4	2	4.4	2	7.1	1.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	139.8	17	128.5	1	53.1	8.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.2	123	24.4	5	26.6	15.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.1	53	84.1	3	77.7	12.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.1	6	13.3	4	18.7	64.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.5	63	95.5	2	81.8	1.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.1	5	6.8	7	7.9	14.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	188.3	1	465.1	10	55.3	147.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	26.5	31	41.2	3	59.9	55.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.3	7	9.3	6	10.9	36.4
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.0	15	19.9	4	24.4	13.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.9	34	26.0	1	36.9	27.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	13.4	18	13.6	3	20.6	1.7

LYON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.0	57	10.7	7	9.7	7.9
Children in Poverty	.	1,653	17.8	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	41.5	2,637	41.9	9	32.2	1.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	41.2	2	28.1	7	26.2	31.7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.9	1	1.9	6	7.3	72.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	79.6	371	72.6	9	85.8	8.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.0	326	81.1	5	74.9	17.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.1	31	5.8	4	7.1	14.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	47.9	100	50.6	6	53.1	23.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.9	1,400	21.3	7	26.6	2.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.8	311	72.7	9	77.7	12.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	27.7	154	29.7	9	18.7	7.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	79.7	428	78.0	9	81.8	2.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.3	46	5.0	5	7.9	30.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	32.1	2	61.6	7	55.3	91.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	52.3	925	101.1	10	59.9	93.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.1	60	6.6	4	10.9	7.1
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	46.9	354	38.7	9	24.4	17.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	28.2	308	32.4	3	36.9	14.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.7	188	19.7	7	20.6	34.5

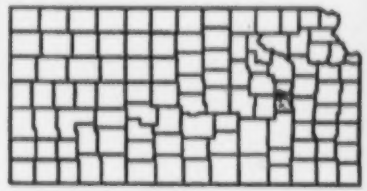
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	33,794	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	85.9%	86.3%
Black	2.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.8%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	9.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,688	$36,488
Unemployment	3.3%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Emporia



Lyon County saw notable improvements in juvenile court filings and out-of-home placements, both of which declined. Positive gains were also seen in all of the Physical Health and Safety indicators, except for prenatal care, which sadly declined and left this county ranked near the bottom of the state on this indicator. Other areas that stood out as red flags include those that regressed and in which Lyon County ranked poorly. These include percent of births to mothers without a high school degree, high school graduation rate, child abuse substantiation rate and youth who have ever used drugs.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

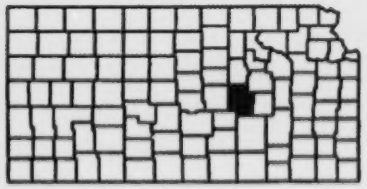
MARION

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	13,544	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.3%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,643	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.3%	3.4%

County Seat: Marion



Marion County is among the best performers on the Childhood Care indicators, ranking in the top 20 percent on Head Start participation and the top 30 percent on child-care availability. Other good news included significant progress in immunized kindergartners and improvement in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. In contrast, Marion County did poorly on all the Emotional Well-Being and Social Behavior/Social Control indicators. Particularly troubling are the indicators on which this county performed well beneath the state average. These include childhood death rate, out-of-home placement rate and teen violent death rate.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.2	9	6.1	3	9.7	1.3
Children in Poverty	.	454	14.1	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	32.0	799	31.0	4	32.2	3.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.4	1	42.2	8	26.2	157.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.2	1	6.8	7	7.3	69.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.8	126	85.7	6	85.8	1.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.7	115	86.4	3	74.9	31.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.8	7	4.8	3	7.1	0.7
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	93.1	45	99.2	2	53.1	84.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.0	593	27.7	3	26.6	6.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.3	161	84.7	3	77.7	11.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.8	25	17.0	6	18.7	14.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.8	190	91.8	4	81.8	12.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.8	25	8.1	8	7.9	66.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	78.6	1	93.9	8	55.3	19.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.3	200	63.9	7	59.9	50.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	11.4	37	11.8	7	10.9	2.8
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.2	75	23.9	6	24.4	39.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	24.9	146	28.3	2	36.9	13.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	13.7	105	20.3	7	20.6	47.8

MARSHALL

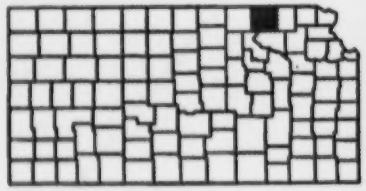
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.4	11	9.9	7	9.7	34.4
Children in Poverty	.	571	19.5	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.1	678	27.7	2	32.2	1.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	42.6	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.7	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.4	98	89.1	3	85.8	3.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.8	96	85.9	3	74.9	41.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	10	9.0	8	7.1	76.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	39.5	19	31.0	8	53.1	21.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	13.9	261	12.9	10	26.6	7.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.0	188	82.5	4	77.7	4.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.5	16	14.4	5	18.7	13.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.7	228	91.9	4	81.8	3.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.5	16	5.7	5	7.9	26.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	91.4	1	144.9	9	55.3	38.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	25.5	125	43.9	3	59.9	72.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.5	5	1.8	2	10.9	50.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	9.3	21	7.4	1	24.4	21.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.0	132	44.0	9	36.9	37.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	12.7	20	6.7	1	20.6	47.6

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,908	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.8%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,432	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.5%	3.4%

County Seat: Marysville



Marshall County can be proud of its top rankings on juvenile court filings and percent of youth who ever used other drugs, both of which saw notable declines. This county also achieved improvements in the percent of births with early prenatal care and the percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2, where the rates were well above the state average. Those indicators deserving attention include percent of births to single teens, percent of low-birth-weight babies and the two indicators for early childhood care (i.e., Head Start participation and child-care availability rate).

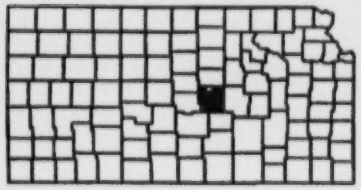
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

McPHERSON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	28,815	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.5%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	96.4%	86.3%
Black	0.9%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.8%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$40,361	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.4%	3.4%

County Seat: McPherson



McPherson County celebrated state rankings in the top 10 percent on several indicators, including percent of children approved for free school meals, youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days and youth who ever used drugs. Notable improvement was made in Head Start participation and the teen violent death rate. McPherson County also showed progress in the Physical Health and Safety indicators, except for childhood death rate, which grew dramatically and on which this county ranked in the bottom 20 percent of the state. Other problem areas included child-care availability rate, child abuse substantiation rate and juvenile court filings.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse / Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.2	26	7.8	5	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	597	8.1	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	20.5	967	18.8	1	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.0	5	88.0	9	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.4	1	3.0	6	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.7	290	86.8	4	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.9	233	74.3	8	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	17	5.1	3	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	65.1	60	97.7	2	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.4	1,105	21.3	7	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.1	305	83.6	3	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.9	60	18.0	6	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.1	365	92.9	3	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.3	33	4.5	4	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	73.1	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	45.4	338	46.0	3	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.7	33	4.5	3	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	13.2	143	19.5	4	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	27.1	45	22.1	1	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	10.1	12	5.8	1	20.6	

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MEADE

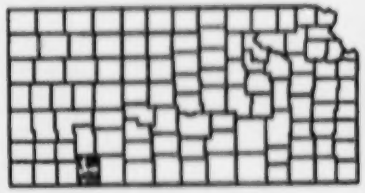
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.9	3	4.5	2	9.7	34.6
Children in Poverty	.	134	10.8	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.6	168	25.1	2	32.2	15.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.4	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	21.1	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	76.4	47	72.3	9	85.8	5.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.6	42	83.3	4	74.9	14.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	10	15.2	10	7.1	115.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	18.2	134	16.3	10	26.6	10.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.9	34	91.9	1	77.7	16.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	27.1	23	35.9	9	18.7	32.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.5	37	92.5	3	81.8	4.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.0	9	7.5	8	7.9	89.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	141.3	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.7	27	22.5	1	59.9	15.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	0.8	1	0.8	1	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	29.3	42	34.9	8	24.4	19.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	44	37.6	6	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	2.6	20	17.1	5	20.6	557.8

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,407	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	92.2%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	7.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,411	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Meade



Meade County out-performs most of the state on high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, with a percentage that far surpasses the state average. Similarly, this county celebrated a respectable high school graduation rate, which also showed a small but recognizable increase. Progress was seen on the percent of all births that are to single teens and the immunization rate. In contrast, problems were experienced with rates associated with early prenatal care and low-birth-weight babies. Meade County also ranked poorly in the child-care availability rate and the percent of all births to mothers with less than a high school degree.

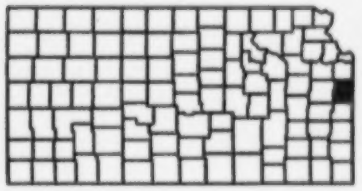
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

MIAMI

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	27,083	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.1%	86.3%
Black	2.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$40,625	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.7%	3.4%

County Seat: Paola



Miami County continued to boast one of the state's highest rates of early prenatal care and made even further gains on this indicator. Great strides also were made on the immunization rate and the child-care availability rate. The most notable concern was observed for the teen violent death rate, which increased and left this county with a poor ranking on this indicator. Other areas where Miami County experienced deteriorating conditions included percent of all births to single teens, out-of-home placement rate and the rate of child abuse reports.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.6	35	9.1	6	9.7	19.2
Children in Poverty	.	896	12.2	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	24.4	1,140	24.0	1	32.2	11.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	18.2	0	0.0	6	26.2	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.2	2	5.2	7	7.3	27.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.7	362	94.3	1	85.8	23.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.3	233	72.5	8	74.9	20.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.3	25	6.5	5	7.1	4.0
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	48.6	40	42.8	7	53.1	11.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.3	1,469	29.1	2	26.6	19.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.3	227	78.5	6	77.7	23.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.1	44	11.5	3	18.7	34.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	82.7	289	86.5	7	81.8	34.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.3	29	3.8	4	7.9	13.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	89.3	3	132.8	9	55.3	48.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	49.0	446	59.8	6	59.9	21.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.4	60	8.0	5	10.9	11.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.9	148	19.8	4	24.4	10.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.1	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	21.9	.	.	.	20.6	

MITCHELL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.4	3	4.8	2	9.7	34.5
Children in Poverty	.	226	12.8	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.8	471	34.2	5	32.2	1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	29.6	1	76.3	9	26.2	123.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.5	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.9	47	75.8	9	85.8	12.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.3	63	87.9	2	74.9	28.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	6	9.7	9	7.1	79.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.4	302	26.0	4	26.6	19.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.3	85	76.6	7	77.7	3.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.8	3	4.8	1	18.7	65.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	93.7	111	96.5	2	81.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.1	5	2.7	3	7.9	34.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	94.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.9	89	48.8	4	59.9	143.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.2	8	4.4	3	10.9	109.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	18.2	34	18.6	3	24.4	2.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.0	80	37.6	6	36.9	3.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	13.2	52	24.4	9	20.6	81.4

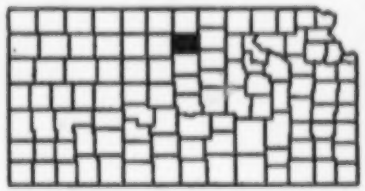
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,937	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.3%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,611	$36,488
Unemployment	2.0%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Beloit



Mitchell County should be proud of its performance on the two indicators related to teen pregnancy. This county ranked in the top 10 percent statewide on the percent of all births to mother with less than a high school degree. Moreover, the percent of all births to single teens declined, ranking this county in the top 20 percent. Mitchell County also celebrated a respectable high school graduation rate. On the negative side, the rate of early prenatal care fell, and the county showed poor rankings on the percent of low-birth-weight babies and the percent of youth who ever used other drugs.

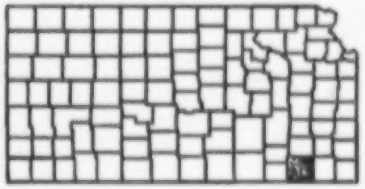
MONTGOMERY

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	36,773	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	87.8%	86.3%
Black	6.9%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	2.0%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,277	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	5.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Independence



Montgomery County can be proud of the significant reduction shown in juvenile court filings. Although this county ranked poorly on the immunization indicator, there was notable improvement on this indicator. Trouble areas include the remaining Physical Health and Safety indicators, especially infant mortality death rate and childhood death rate, on which Montgomery County ranked at the bottom of the state. Attention also is warranted for the increases observed on the indicators relating to teens' use of alcohol and other drugs.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	14.3	62	13.4	9	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	2,216	23.2	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.6	2,557	41.1	8	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	19.1	9	128.0	10	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.6	5	10.8	9	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.7	389	84.4	6	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	48.2	280	68.9	10	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	38	8.2	7	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	52.4	140	60.3	5	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	23.0	1,459	22.8	6	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.9	284	78.0	6	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.1	118	25.5	9	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	75.5	364	76.0	10	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.2	86	9.4	8	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	68.5	1	32.8	6	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	74.5	821	88.5	9	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.2	303	32.7	10	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	28.1	168	18.1	3	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.4	511	37.2	5	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	21.7	351	25.6	10	20.6	

MORRIS

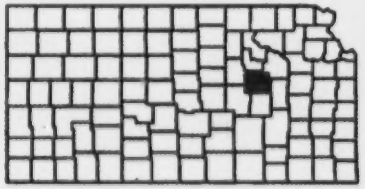
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.2	7	11.9	8	9.7	27.4
Children in Poverty	.	244	15.6	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	36.2	352	34.1	5	32.2	5.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	33.0	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.7	1	16.9	10	7.3	37.2
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.6	50	84.7	6	85.8	3.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	71.4	40	77.6	6	74.9	8.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.2	2	3.4	2	7.1	45.0
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.3	204	19.5	8	26.6	0.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.2	46	67.6	10	77.7	11.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	15.8	9	15.3	5	18.7	3.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.2	68	90.7	5	81.8	0.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.3	10	6.5	6	7.9	2.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	97.0	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	67.4	153	99.0	10	59.9	46.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.5	26	16.8	9	10.9	100.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	27.2	71	45.9	10	24.4	88.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.6	113	39.0	6	36.9	13.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	17.9	58	20.1	7	20.6	11.9

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,173	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	96.7%	86.3%
Black	0.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$31,810	$36,488
Unemployment (1989 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Service)	2.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Council Grove



Morris County showed significant progress by reducing the percentage of low-birth-weight babies, earning a ranking in the top 20 percent statewide. The immunization rate also increased a small amount, as did the high school graduation rate. Unfortunately, Morris County has several areas that are red flags for children and youth well-being. The most serious among these are a growing share of births to single teens and a decline in high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. Morris County should also be troubled by all of the Emotional Well-Being and Social Behavior indicators, which all moved in the wrong direction.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

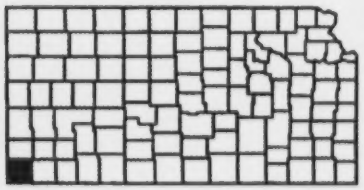
MORTON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,489	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	83.2%	86.3%
Black	0.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	14.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$38,752	$36,488
Unemployment	2.6%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Elkhart



Morton County achieved a ranking in the top 10 percent of the state for its low out-of-home placement rate. Other strengths of this county include a substantial increase in the immunization rate, growth in high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training and a reputable high school graduation rate. Trouble areas include births to single teens, births to mothers with less than a high school degree, early prenatal care rates and child-care availability. Although Morton County is near the state average on juvenile court filings, these grew by a good amount and should be closely watched in the near future.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.4	9	15.8	10	9.7	124.3
Children in Poverty	.	168	15.9	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.4	331	40.6	8	32.2	18.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	69.3	34	61.8	10	85.8	10.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	62.0	35	80.0	6	74.9	29.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.3	4	7.0	6	7.1	46.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.3	156	22.1	7	26.6	12.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	77.0	50	84.7	3	77.7	10.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	24.4	19	33.3	9	18.7	36.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.5	59	93.7	3	81.8	14.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	3.5	1	0.9	1	7.9	73.2
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	143.3	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.0	50	47.7	4	59.9	248.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.0	1	1.0	1	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.8	24	22.9	5	24.4	54.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	53.7	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	22.8	.	.	.	20.6	

NEMAHA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.7	6	3.9	2	9.7	16.3
Children in Poverty	.	365	12.3	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.1	451	23.8	1	32.2	8.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	34.8	1	45.2	8	26.2	39.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	13.7	1	6.5	7	7.3	53.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.2	138	89.6	3	85.8	0.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	76.6	106	87.2	3	74.9	13.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.0	4	2.6	1	7.1	56.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	74.1	38	96.1	2	53.1	29.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.5	499	25.1	4	26.6	1.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.6	135	82.3	4	77.7	3.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.4	14	9.1	2	18.7	67.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.0	164	94.3	3	81.8	0.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.8	12	4.2	4	7.9	138.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	84.0	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	24.0	133	46.6	3	59.9	94.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.3	26	9.1	5	10.9	33.8
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	9.7	55	19.3	4	24.4	26.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.6	75	25.3	1	36.9	26.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	6.6	5	1.7	1	20.6	74.6

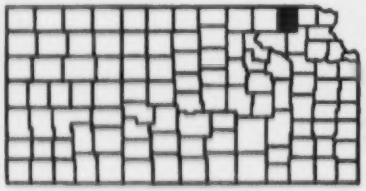
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,182	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	99.0%	86.3%
Black	0.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,266	$36,488
Unemployment	2.8%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Seneca



Nemaha County is applauded for its top ranking on the percentage of children approved for free school meals and the percentage of youth who used alcohol in the past 30 days as well as youth who ever used other drugs. Strong progress was made on the percent of low-birth-weight babies, earning a ranking in the top 10 percent statewide. This county also ranked high on high school graduation rate but experienced a small decline. Closer attention should be paid to the following indicators that moved in the wrong direction: out-of-home placement, reported child maltreatment, child abuse substantiation and juvenile court filings.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

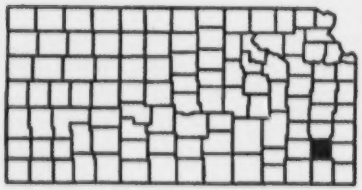
NEOSHO

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	16,641	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.5%	86.3%
Black	1.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,890	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.1%	3.4%

County Seat: Erie



Neosho County can be proud that many of its high school graduates go on to pursue post-secondary education or training and that the percentage of graduates who do has recently grown. Notable improvement also was shown on the rates for immunizations, out-of-home placements and child abuse substantiations. Although the percent of births to single teens increased by a moderate amount, the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree moderately declined. Areas for improvement include Head Start participation and child-care availability. Neosho also experienced poor rankings and sizable, undesirable increases on all of the Social Behavior indicators.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.4	19	11.1	7	9.7	7.1
Children in Poverty	.	831	19.0	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.3	1,335	42.3	9	32.2	3.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	35.6	2	61.7	9	26.2	73.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	2.0	2	11.7	9	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.4	152	88.9	4	85.8	1.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	39.6	107	73.3	8	74.9	15.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.9	18	10.5	9	7.1	31.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	57.4	40	45.5	7	53.1	20.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	32.4	787	27.1	3	26.6	16.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.9	178	81.3	4	77.7	3.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.6	29	17.0	6	18.7	8.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	81.0	219	82.0	8	81.8	1.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	10.6	35	8.3	8	7.9	20.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	81.5	3	233.6	9	55.3	188.1
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	64.7	391	92.5	10	59.9	42.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.8	126	29.8	10	10.9	12.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.9	253	59.8	10	24.4	145.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.1	192	60.8	10	36.9	63.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	12.9	128	40.6	10	20.6	214.1

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NESS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.3	1	3.4	1	9.7	35.5
Children in Poverty	.	117	12.3	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.0	193	30.1	3	32.2	3.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.4	24	85.7	6	85.8	2.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.6	16	71.4	9	74.9	1.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	3	10.3	9	7.1	31.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.2	134	21.8	7	26.6	34.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	88.2	61	89.7	2	77.7	1.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.3	2	6.9	1	18.7	43.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.9	68	91.9	4	81.8	4.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.6	0	0.0	1	7.9	108.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	103.6	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.0	29	32.4	2	59.9	84.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	0.0	1	1.1	2	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	6.5	4	4.5	1	24.4	31.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	55.5	63	40.6	7	36.9	26.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	11.8	27	17.4	5	20.6	47.6

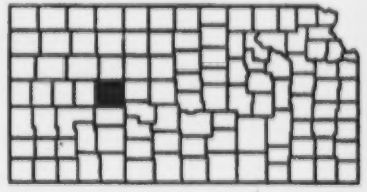
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,564	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.9%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.8%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,244	$36,488
Unemployment	2.1%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Ness City



Ness County enjoyed a ranking in the top 10 percent for juvenile court filings, which also declined during the most recent year. Although this county remained beneath the state average, gains were made in the areas of early prenatal care and immunization. Ness maintained a high school graduation rate above the state average but recently experienced a slight decline. Other concerns include this county's poor ranking on low-birth-weight babies.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

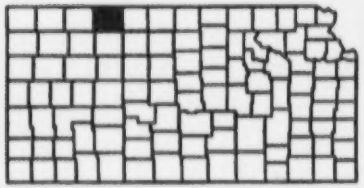
NORTON

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,635	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.2%	86.3%
Black	3.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$31,013	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Norton



Norton County sets the standard for early prenatal care and immunizations; this county not only surpassed the state average but also achieved the *Healthy People 2010* goals of 90 percent. Norton County also ranked above the state average for high school graduates who pursue education or training. A couple of areas to watch for possible problems include the rate of juvenile court filings and use of other drugs among teens.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.4	3	7.0	4	9.7	29.7
Children in Poverty	.	238	18.5	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.7	320	30.7	3	32.2	3.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	21.4	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.6	1	23.3	10	7.3	223.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.3	39	90.7	2	85.8	3.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	59.8	51	90.2	2	74.9	50.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	1	2.3	1	7.1	59.7
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	87.2	27	117.1	2	53.1	34.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	30.9	212	26.4	3	26.6	14.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.6	69	81.2	4	77.7	0.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.9	2	4.7	1	18.7	41.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.5	85	95.5	2	81.8	4.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	4.6	10	8.5	8	7.9	83.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	241.1	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	55.2	66	54.1	5	59.9	1.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	10.3	4	3.3	3	10.9	69.2
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	33.6	44	36.1	8	24.4	7.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.8	97	31.5	3	36.9	9.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	16.4	51	16.7	5	20.6	1.9

OSAGE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.3	18	9.4	6	9.7	1.6
Children in Poverty	.	665	13.9	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.0	883	26.6	2	32.2	11.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.1	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	7.1	1	5.2	7	7.3	36.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	91.0	183	95.8	1	85.8	5.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	67.6	135	81.6	5	74.9	20.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.8	19	9.9	9	7.1	43.7
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	29.6	20	31.5	8	53.1	16.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	27.1	812	25.9	4	26.6	4.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	66.4	152	71.7	9	77.7	8.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.4	26	13.7	4	18.7	10.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.0	212	85.8	7	81.8	3.5
EMOTIONAL WELL BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.4	46	9.9	9	7.9	84.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	130.8	1	75.3	7	55.3	42.4
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	51.9	391	84.1	8	59.9	62.0
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.6	33	7.1	5	10.9	26.9
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.5	109	23.4	6	24.4	33.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.4	272	40.9	7	36.9	26.1
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	19.4	126	19.0	6	20.6	2.0

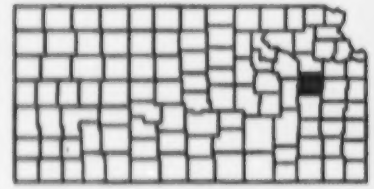
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	17,199	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.0%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$35,499	$36,488
Unemployment	3.3%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lyndon



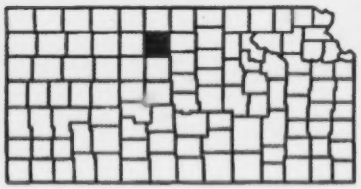
Osage County should be applauded for its outstanding ranking on early prenatal care, which continued to climb in the most recent year. The immunization rate also grew substantially, surpassing the state average. Trouble spots include declines in child-care availability, as well as a high rate of out-of-home placements and reported child abuse. This county also experienced an increase in confirmed child abuse in the most recent year.

OSBORNE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,589	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	23.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.8%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$27,601	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.5%	3.4%

County Seat: Osborne



Osborne County celebrated a low rate and a top ranking on juvenile court filings. This county also experienced declines on the two indicators related to births to single teens and mothers without a high school degree. The high school graduation rate is very high in Osborne County and continued to grow; however, the percent of graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training is beneath the state average and, sadly, declined. Also worthy of attention are the undesirable increases on the Emotional Well-Being indicators, which should be closely followed in coming years.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.6	2	4.7	2	9.7	45.7
Children in Poverty	.	206	18.0	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.8	180	36.4	6	32.2	4.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	160.6	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	95.7	39	90.7	2	85.8	5.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.1	20	84.0	4	74.9	33.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.6	4	9.3	8	7.1	22.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.6	174	23.1	6	26.6	2.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	88.4	27	75.0	8	77.7	15.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.9	4	9.3	2	18.7	21.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.4	36	97.3	2	81.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.9	5	4.7	5	7.9	141.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	209.6	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	39.3	57	52.1	5	59.9	32.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	4.4	13	11.9	7	10.9	168.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	10.5	6	5.5	1	24.4	47.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	6.2	.	.	.	20.6	

OTTAWA

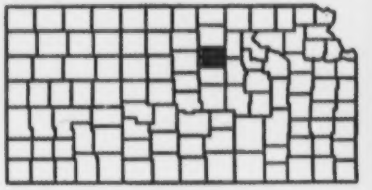
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.1	9	12.7	9	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	199	12.8	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.5	329	24.0	1	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	34.1	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	1	14.1	10	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	92.1	63	88.7	4	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	75.2	82	82.4	4	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	9.1	7	9.9	9	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	87.8	15	68.8	4	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.0	271	25.6	4	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.7	64	69.6	9	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.2	12	16.9	5	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	92.5	92	94.8	3	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.5	9	5.9	6	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	53.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	41.2	134	87.9	9	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.5	34	22.3	10	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.7	42	27.5	7	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,889	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.9%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.4%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$37,087	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Minneapolis



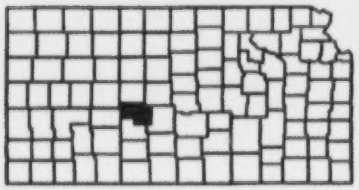
Ottawa County celebrated a ranking in the top 10 percent and experienced a decline in the percentage of children approved for free school meals, a proxy measure for child poverty. The high school graduation rate was also notably strong and continued to increase. In contrast, this county ranked poorly on the rate at which high school graduates pursue post-secondary education, which unfortunately fell even further behind. Two other areas of concern are the rates at which child abuse was reported and confirmed. Both of these indicators are well above the state average and increased for the most recent year.

PAWNEE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,207	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	88.9%	86.3%
Black	4.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,528	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.7%	3.4%

County Seat: Larned



Pawnee County showed progress on both of the alcohol and other drug indicators. Other positive gains include increases in the immunization rate and the rate at which high school graduates pursue post-secondary education or training. Pawnee County ranked in the top 20 percent on both of these indicators. Unfortunately, this county does not rank as well on high school graduation, which fell beneath the state average. Other areas of concern include poor rankings and undesirable increases on the Emotional Well-Being indicators.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	14.7	11	13.3	9	9.7	9.9
Children in Poverty	.	317	18.1	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	35.3	475	38.5	7	32.2	9.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	43.0	1	75.7	9	26.2	76.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	16.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.0	69	84.1	7	85.8	2.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.5	52	90.9	2	74.9	41.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.9	5	6.0	4	7.1	2.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	86.3	18	58.7	6	53.1	32.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	37.1	323	27.8	3	26.6	25.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	76.1	89	89.0	2	77.7	16.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.4	15	18.1	6	18.7	10.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.6	100	81.3	9	81.8	5.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11.6	23	13.1	10	7.9	12.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	72.6	1	183.8	9	55.3	153.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	42.0	153	85.9	9	59.9	104.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.7	20	11.2	6	10.9	206.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	36.9	53	29.8	8	24.4	19.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.6	90	35.3	4	36.9	10.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	19.6	45	17.6	5	20.6	10.0

PHILLIPS

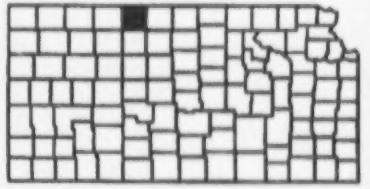
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.4	6	10.2	7	9.7	138.7
Children in Poverty	.	253	16.8	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.5	394	35.3	5	32.2	2.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.0	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	6.3	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.9	53	89.8	3	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.5	59	93.2	1	74.9	54.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	2.8	4	6.8	5	7.1	157.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	99.1	10	41.1	7	53.1	58.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	31.5	323	32.8	1	26.6	4.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	79.6	78	85.7	2	77.7	7.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.6	7	11.9	3	18.7	12.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.9	91	96.8	2	81.8	8.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.2	5	3.5	3	7.9	32.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	51.8	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	38.5	77	53.1	5	59.9	37.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	8.8	15	10.3	6	10.9	15.4
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.1	19	13.1	2	24.4	13.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	26.4	92	30.3	2	36.9	14.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	7.5	29	9.6	2	20.6	28.7

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,958	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.4%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,148	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.7%	3.4%

County Seat: Phillipsburg



Phillips County boasts a notably high rate of immunization, exceeding both the state average as well as the *Healthy People 2010* goal. This county also celebrated a child-care availability rate in the top 10 percent statewide. Other strengths include high rates of high school graduation as well as those graduates going on to pursue post-secondary education or training. Problem areas include a low rate of Head Start participation among eligible children and increases in the rates of reported and confirmed child abuse.

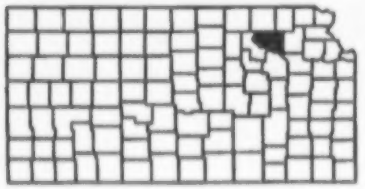
POTTAWATOMIE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	18,942	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	29.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	96.0%	86.3%
Black	0.6%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$38,587	$36,488
Unemployment	2.5%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Westmoreland



Pottawatomie County is a top performer in the state because of its low rate of juvenile court filings. This county is also in the top 20 percent statewide on the percent of low-birth-weight babies. The high school graduation rate in Pottawatomie is well above the state average. While this county ranked well on the two teen pregnancy indicators, both showed notable increases and should be closely watched in upcoming years. Other concerns include declines in the Childhood Care indicators, increases that occurred in the Emotional Well-Being indicators and increases in the two indicators related to teens' use of alcohol and other drugs.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.6	16	6.3	3	9.7	37.0
Children in Poverty	.	697	12.5	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	26.0	965	25.8	2	32.2	0.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	34.0	1	23.4	7	26.2	31.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.2	3	11.8	9	7.3	117.8
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	87.0	216	85.4	6	85.8	1.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.5	167	78.5	6	74.9	8.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	10	3.9	2	7.1	33.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.4	38	48.9	6	53.1	13.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	22.9	863	22.2	7	26.6	2.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.9	215	73.1	8	77.7	0.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	6.3	23	9.1	2	18.7	44.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.9	294	92.2	4	81.8	1.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.8	11	2.0	2	7.9	7.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	42.8	2	127.3	8	55.3	197.5
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.5	259	46.5	3	59.9	34.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.0	68	12.2	7	10.9	3.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	11.4	42	7.5	1	24.4	34.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.2	273	46.6	10	36.9	28.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	15.3	129	22.0	8	20.6	43.1

PRATT

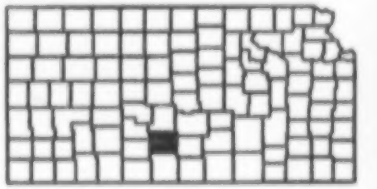
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.7	7	6.7	4	9.7	13.3
Children in Poverty	.	419	16.7	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.2	488	30.1	3	32.2	2.9
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	10.6	1	55.0	8	26.2	419.4
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.7	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.1	89	85.6	6	85.8	10.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	60.5	70	77.2	7	74.9	27.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.3	3	2.9	2	7.1	54.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	83.7	30	75.6	4	53.1	9.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	26.8	443	27.2	3	26.6	1.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.5	117	84.2	3	77.7	0.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.1	14	13.3	4	18.7	1.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	85.6	139	89.7	5	81.8	4.7
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.4	14	5.9	6	7.9	10.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	102.2	0	.	. .	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	44.8	148	61.4	6	59.9	37.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.7	14	5.8	4	10.9	41.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	34.4	130	53.9	10	24.4	36.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	32.0	131	36.5	5	36.9	14.3
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	18.4	77	21.6	8	20.6	17.4

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	9,517	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	94.8%	86.3%
Black	1.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,857	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Pratt



Pratt County can be proud of the low rate at which babies are born at low birth weights in this county. Other positive news for this county included increases in the child-care availability rate, the high school graduation rate and the immunization rate. One of the biggest concerns for this county is its poor ranking on juvenile court filings, which showed substantial increases. Attention also should be paid to the increases in out-of-home placement rate, reports of child abuse and the alcohol and other drug indicators.

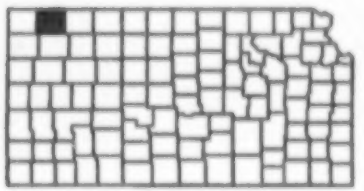
RAWLINS

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,016	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.3%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,655	$36,488
Unemployment	2.5%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Atwood



Rawlins County earned rankings in the top 10 percent on six indicators. Among these, the most notable include a 100 percent immunization rate and a 100 percent high school graduation rate. Still, Rawlins County has some serious concerns. The rate at which pregnant women receive early prenatal care is well below the state average and showed even further declines. Child-care availability also is a trouble spot for this county. In addition, the rate at which high school graduates go on to post-secondary education or training is low in comparison to the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.5	1	5.3	3	9.7	18.7
Children in Poverty	.	137	17.1	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.5	190	37.1	6	32.2	8.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	62.1	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.5	14	73.7	9	85.8	16.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	65.8	27	100.0	1	74.9	52.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.2	0	0.0	1	7.1	100.0
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	134.3	17	137.3	1	53.1	2.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.1	104	19.5	8	26.6	8.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.0	46	76.7	7	77.7	8.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	9.4	1	5.3	1	18.7	44.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.2	60	100.0	1	81.8	3.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0.7	5	7.1	7	7.9	878.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	196.7	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	20.6	25	33.6	2	59.9	63.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.8	1	1.3	2	10.9	65.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.2	6	8.1	1	24.4	53.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.7	42	29.6	2	36.9	14.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	11.3	16	11.2	2	20.6	0.6

RENO

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.8	93	11.3	8	9.7	4.1
Children in Poverty	.	2,946	18.5	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	35.5	3,721	35.9	6	32.2	1.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	34.4	6	49.6	8	26.2	43.9
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.2	5	6.1	7	7.3	52.6
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.8	658	80.4	7	85.8	2.1
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	67.5	494	80.4	5	74.9	19.1
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.1	73	8.9	8	7.1	24.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	53.7	167	52.6	6	53.1	2.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.2	2,851	26.0	4	26.6	3.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.5	487	78.4	6	77.7	8.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	21.5	173	21.1	8	18.7	1.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.9	621	77.9	9	81.8	1.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	13.6	301	19.0	10	7.9	48.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	76.4	1	19.8	6	55.3	74.0
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	57.1	1,279	80.9	8	59.9	41.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	11.2	210	13.3	7	10.9	19.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	33.1	698	44.1	10	24.4	33.3
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	30.5	592	30.8	2	36.9	3.2
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	19.8	367	19.1	6	20.6	3.5

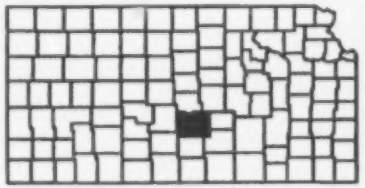
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	63,702	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	90.1%	86.3%
Black	3.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.6%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$35,475	$36,488
Unemployment	3.3%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Hutchinson



Reno County should be pleased with the progress it made in improving the immunization rate. The rates at which single teens and mothers without a high school degree had babies also showed slight, but needed improvement. Other positive gains included increases in child-care availability and the rate at which high school graduates pursue post-secondary education or training. Unfortunately, the high school graduation rate fell to a rate that is in the bottom 20 percent statewide. Problem areas also included childhood deaths, the percent of low-birth-weight babies, the rates of reported and confirmed child abuse and the juvenile court filings rate.

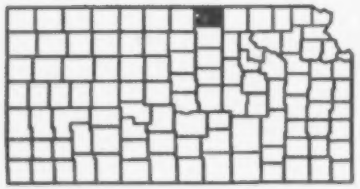
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,975	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	99.2%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,994	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.4%	3.4%

County Seat: Belleville



Republic County celebrated high rankings while also making additional progress on the child-care availability and the out-of-home placement rates. This county also should be recognized for the high rate at which pregnant women received early prenatal care. Areas for concentrating future improvements include the rate at which eligible children participate in Head Start, reports of child abuse and juvenile court filings. Although Republic County achieved rates above the state average, small declines were observed for the high school graduation rate and the rate at which high school graduates go on to post-secondary education or training.

REPUBLIC

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	8.0	3	6.8	4	9.7	14.5
Children in Poverty	.	262	18.3	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.7	332	31.8	4	32.2	8.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.9	1	97.4	10	26.2	163.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.0	40	90.9	2	85.8	3.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	58.9	33	84.1	4	74.9	42.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	2	4.5	3	7.1	10.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	71.2	17	61.4	5	53.1	13.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	30.7	297	32.2	2	26.6	5.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.7	73	81.1	4	77.7	4.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.8	5	11.4	3	18.7	17.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	91.9	90	91.8	4	81.8	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.6	3	2.3	2	7.9	65.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	54.2	1	265.3	10	55.3	379.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	41.2	71	52.2	5	59.9	26.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.7	7	5.2	3	10.9	12.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	18.8	35	25.8	6	24.4	37.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	33.3	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	6.7	.	.	.	20.6	

RICE

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.1	11	9.5	6	9.7	3.8
Children in Poverty	.	466	17.2	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.4	816	40.5	8	32.2	0.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.5	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	11.4	1	8.6	8	7.3	24.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	80.6	86	76.1	9	85.8	5.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	63.7	79	70.4	10	74.9	10.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.2	8	6.9	5	7.1	15.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	23.1	18	34.5	8	53.1	49.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.5	338	18.5	9	26.6	5.4
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	78.9	99	77.3	7	77.7	2.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	14.8	18	15.5	5	18.7	4.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	89.4	128	87.1	7	81.8	2.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12.1	32	12.5	9	7.9	3.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	106.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	65.4	191	73.0	8	59.9	11.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.7	16	6.1	4	10.9	68.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	25.1	95	36.3	8	24.4	44.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	27.9	124	26.9	1	36.9	(32.3) 3.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.8	74	16.0	4	20.6	8.1

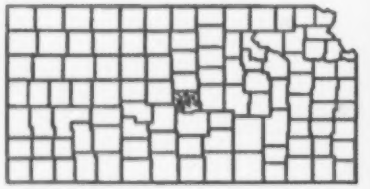
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,233	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	93.9%	86.3%
Black	1.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$32,195	$36,488
Unemployment	4.1%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Lyons



Rice County made progress on the indicator that deals with teens' use of alcohol, earning a ranking in the top 10 percent statewide. Positive gains also were made on the percent of low-birth-weight babies. Although this county ranked poorly on immunization rate, notable improvement was made. Of concern is this county's low rate of early prenatal care as well as the poor rankings and undesirable increases on all of the Emotional Well-Being indicators.

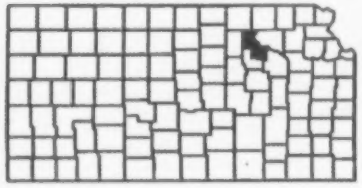
RILEY

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	63,708	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	79.1%	86.3%
Black	10.2%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	4.8%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$33,744	$36,488
Unemployment	3.7%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Manhattan



Riley County outperforms most of the state on births to mothers without a high school degree, with a percentage that is less than half the state average. Similarly, the births to single teens rate is also low in this county. Great strides were made in increasing Head Start participation among eligible children. In contrast, Riley County ranked poorly and lost a bit of ground on child-care availability. Other concerns include an increase in the percent of low-birth-weight babies and undesirable increases in all of the Social Behavior indicators.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	4.1	37	3.9	2	9.7	5.0
Children in Poverty	.	1,888	13.4	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	29.8	1,957	28.5	3	32.2	4.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.3	3	28.0	7	26.2	62.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	3.2	4	4.2	6	7.3	28.4
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.2	839	87.6	4	85.8	2.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	71.5	343	77.9	6	74.9	8.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.7	67	7.0	5	7.1	23.0
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	44.1	150	63.6	5	53.1	44.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.5	2,104	20.4	7	26.6	6.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.7	383	88.0	2	77.7	3.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.4	59	6.2	1	18.7	16.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.1	435	85.6	7	81.8	3.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.2	53	3.9	4	7.9	24.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	26.9	2	26.6	6	55.3	1.3
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.9	588	42.8	3	59.9	12.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.6	116	8.4	5	10.9	10.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.7	206	15.0	3	24.4	18.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.1	444	35.4	5	36.9	13.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	20.2	256	20.4	7	20.6	1.3

ROOKS

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	7.4	5	7.8	5	9.7	6.0
Children in Poverty	.	278	18.1	7	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	36.6	400	36.7	6	32.2	0.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.8	1	89.0	10	26.2	231.5
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	12.8	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	91.7	55	85.9	5	85.8	6.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.6	47	95.2	1	74.9	29.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	1	1.6	1	7.1	75.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	0.0	0	0.0	10	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	30.7	352	35.0	1	26.6	13.8
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.5	52	63.4	10	77.7	23.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.4	5	7.9	2	18.7	7.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.9	82	92.1	4	81.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.7	7	4.9	5	7.9	182.7
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	53.4	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	49.9	111	75.5	8	59.9	51.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	6.7	17	11.6	7	10.9	70.9
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	17.9	31	21.1	4	24.4	18.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	50.0	156	57.0	10	36.9	14.2
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	20.4	65	23.8	9	20.6	16.4

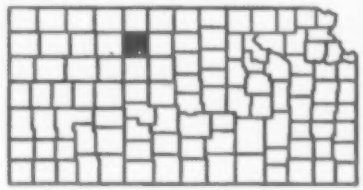
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,626	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.4%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,792	$36,488
Unemployment	2.6%	3.4%

(1995 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Stockton



Rooks County can be most proud of three indicators on which it ranked in the top 10 percent statewide. These include the immunization rate, the percent of low-birth-weight babies and child-care availability. Trouble spots for this county include a notable decrease in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training, and the increases in reported and confirmed child abuse. In addition, Rooks County should beware of the increases shown on teens' use of alcohol and other drugs.

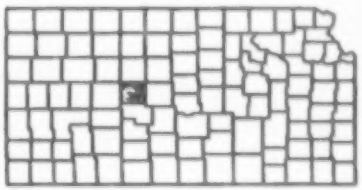
RUSH

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,365	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.4%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,395	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.2%	3.4%

County Seat: La Crosse



Rush County can be applauded for a strong high school graduation rate. Other strengths include a high rate of child-care availability and a small percentage of low-birth-weight babies. Of particular concern is the substantial decrease that was seen in the rate of early prenatal care. Other red flags include increases on the two teen pregnancy indicators and on the two child abuse indicators.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.1	2	5.4	3	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	141	18.6	8	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.5	276	42.0	9	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.8	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.1	30	81.1	7	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.7	32	85.3	4	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.5	1	2.7	2	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	46.5	7	43.6	7	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	34.3	160	32.1	2	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.7	50	83.3	4	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.2	6	16.2	5	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.9	60	92.3	3	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0.5	0	0.0	1	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	212.1	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	48.6	48	65.9	7	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.4	12	16.5	9	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	18.8	29	39.8	9	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	42.1	71	39.2	7	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	13.0	21	11.9	3	20.6	

RUSSELL

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.4	6	9.7	6	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	340	19.7	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	38.9	510	39.7	7	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	14.8	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.6	57	91.9	1	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	55.9	64	90.6	2	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.4	0	0.0	1	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	46.3	15	46.1	7	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	28.9	393	34.5	1	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	80.5	95	90.5	1	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.2	12	19.4	7	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	83.9	105	85.4	8	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.5	12	7.4	7	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	43.3	1	209.2	9	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	51.1	148	89.8	9	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	19.7	17	10.3	6	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	26.1	69	41.8	10	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.2	140	41.3	8	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.9	44	13.0	3	20.6	

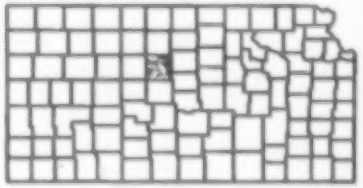
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,459	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	22.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.8%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,214	$36,488
Unemployment	3.1%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Russell



Russell County is a top performer on all of the Physical Health and Safety indicators, where it has achieved the *Healthy People 2010* goal on both the early prenatal care and the immunization indicators. This county also experienced notable progress and earned top ranking on child-care availability and the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. In contrast, Russell County experienced difficulties on the out-of-home placement rate and the reported child abuse rate, both of which increased. Attention should also be paid to the increased rate of juvenile court filings.

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A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

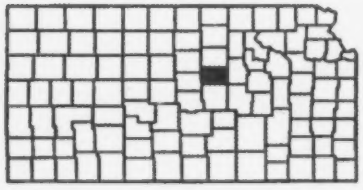
SALINE

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	51,379	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	91.1%	86.3%
Black	3.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$36,682	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.4%	3.4%

County Seat: Salina



Saline County celebrated a ranking in the top 10 percent statewide on the rate at which child care is available. Head Start participation is another strength of this county. Notable progress was made in reducing the percent of low-birth-weight babies and increasing the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. On the negative side, this county ranked poorly and saw undesirable increases on both of the teen pregnancy indicators, the two child abuse indicators, and the indicators relating to teens' use of alcohol and other drugs.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.0	107	15.2	10	9.7	37.6
Children in Poverty	.	2,196	16.2	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.6	3,225	36.3	6	32.2	8.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	17.2	2	19.7	7	26.2	14.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.1	6	8.5	8	7.3	16.1
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	90.6	630	89.5	3	85.8	1.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	74.0	475	76.6	7	74.9	3.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.7	48	6.8	5	7.1	11.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	56.7	217	89.2	3	53.1	57.3
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	36.4	3,388	36.4	1	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.6	406	79.5	5	77.7	6.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	17.4	147	20.9	8	18.7	19.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	78.4	511	82.0	8	81.8	4.6
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.2	89	6.8	6	7.9	5.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	69.4	1	25.2	6	55.3	63.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	58.8	1,392	105.1	10	59.9	78.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.3	222	16.8	9	10.9	16.8
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	46.9	411	31.0	8	24.4	33.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.6	724	41.1	7	36.9	18.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	24.0	459	26.1	10	20.6	8.7

SCOTT

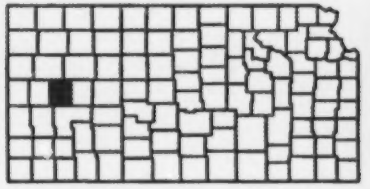
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.1	5	6.5	3	9.7	28.6
Children in Poverty	.	160	10.1	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	31.1	357	33.1	4	32.2	6.2%
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	51.7	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	12.1	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	75.5	58	77.3	9	85.8	2.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.9	52	80.5	5	74.9	16.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.9	6	7.8	6	7.1	1.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	285.1	12	74.9	4	53.1	73.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.4	290	28.5	2	26.6	14.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	86.6	63	75.0	8	77.7	13.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	26.7	16	20.8	8	18.7	22.1
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.9	84	94.4	3	81.8	16.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.4	8	5.3	5	7.9	37.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	190.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	36.1	109	71.5	8	59.9	5.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	10.4	27	17.7	9	10.9	62.5
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	23.0	41	26.9	7	24.4	17.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	34.3	93	36.7	5	36.9	6.8%
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	11.8	28	11.2	2	20.6	5.1

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,941	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	30.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.0%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	4.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$38,781	$36,488
Unemployment (1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.9%	3.4%

County Seat: Scott City



Scott County can be proud of its low child poverty rate, which places it in the top 10 percent statewide. Although some ground was lost on child-care availability rate, this county still ranked in the top 20 percent statewide. Another notable strength is this county's respectable high school graduation rate. In contrast, Scott County had a low rate of early prenatal care, which grew by only a small amount. The losses in the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training are of concern, as are the substantial increases in the reported and confirmed child abuse indicators.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

SEDGWICK

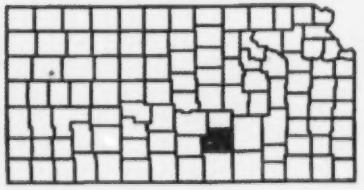
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	451,684	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	80.5%	86.3%
Black	9.6%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.9%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.6%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$40,875	$36,488
Unemployment	3.9%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Wichita



Sedgwick County continued to celebrate a juvenile court filing rate in the top 20 percent statewide. Substantial improvement was made in reducing both the infant mortality rate and the teen violent death rate. In contrast, deteriorating conditions were indicated by increases in the childhood death rate, the out-of-home placement rate and the two child abuse indicators. Concerns also include poor rankings and lost ground on the indicators of Head Start participation and teens' use of alcohol and other drugs.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.9	817	10.8	7	9.7	0.5
Children in Poverty	.	21,223	17.0	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	36.5	28,497	37.7	7	32.2	3.1
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	28.6	30	31.5	8	26.2	10.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	8.9	62	8.2	8	7.3	7.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.2	6,463	86.6	5	85.8	0.5
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	57.2	4,075	70.8	9	74.9	23.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.3	578	7.7	6	7.1	5.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	32.3	778	31.4	8	53.1	2.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	25.0	23,189	26.1	4	26.6	4.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.3	2,808	78.0	6	77.7	4.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	20.6	1,613	21.4	8	18.7	3.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	70.0	3,600	71.7	10	81.8	2.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	11.0	1,592	12.8	10	7.9	16.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	80.4	10	29.1	6	55.3	63.8
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	49.1	6,596	53.2	5	59.9	8.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.8	1,396	11.3	6	10.9	15.2
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	13.2	1,415	11.4	2	24.4	13.7
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.1	2,038	39.3	7	36.9	8.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	22.6	1,235	23.8	9	20.6	5.5

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SEWARD

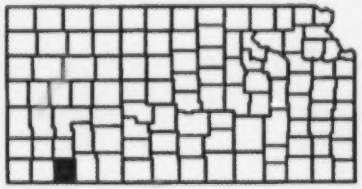
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.7	69	13.2	9	9.7	4.6
Children in Poverty	.	1,326	20.1	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	47.1	2,530	50.1	10	32.2	6.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	16.0	0	0.0	6	26.2	100.0
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.7	5	9.6	8	7.3	67.9
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	53.2	318	61.5	10	85.8	15.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	47.0	335	73.5	8	74.9	56.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.8	47	9.0	8	7.1	55.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	33.5	70	42.2	7	53.1	26.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.8	677	14.2	10	26.6	20.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	74.1	173	73.3	8	77.7	1.0
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	46.8	232	45.4	10	18.7	3.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	72.9	236	74.0	10	81.8	1.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.7	36	5.6	5	7.9	28.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	149.6	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	48.5	403	62.3	6	59.9	28.4
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.1	19	2.9	3	10.9	35.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	52.1	286	44.2	10	24.4	15.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.9	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.5	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	20,155	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	32.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	64.6%	86.3%
Black	6.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	26.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$35,710	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	3.0%	3.4%

County Seat: Liberal



Seward County continued to improve the child abuse substantiation rate as well as the out-of-home placement rate. While this county made notable improvements in the rates related to early prenatal care and immunizations, these are two important indicators on which Seward County ranked poorly. Other trouble areas include a substantial decrease in the availability of child care as well as an increase in the percent of children approved for free school meals, a proxy measure for child poverty.

SHAWNEE

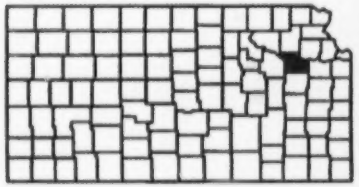
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	170,773	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	82.2%	86.3%
Black	9.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	7.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$40,122	$36,488
Unemployment	3.2%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Topeka



Shawnee County continued to rank in the top 10 percent statewide on the rate of child-care availability, despite a small decline on this indicator. The percent of births to single teens decreased by a notable amount, while the percent of all births to mothers without a high school degree fell, though only slightly. The childhood death rate was cut in half. Unfortunately, both the infant mortality rate and the teen violent death rate were on the rise. Also, this county's rates for reported and confirmed child abuse were notably higher than the state average.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	12.9	259	11.0	7	9.7	14.8
Children in Poverty	.	7,312	16.7	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	35.6	10,204	38.3	7	32.2	7.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.5	5	15.2	6	26.2	53.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.3	30	12.7	10	7.3	36.7
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.5	2,107	89.2	3	85.8	0.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	74.5	1,361	76.7	7	74.9	2.9
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.9	176	7.5	6	7.1	5.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	70.0	521	66.5	4	53.1	3.1
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	35.7	10,425	34.6	1	26.6	3.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	67.4	1,127	70.7	9	77.7	4.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.2	428	18.1	6	18.7	0.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	74.7	1,594	77.0	10	81.8	3.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12.7	543	12.6	10	7.9	0.9
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	71.0	12	92.8	8	55.3	30.7
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	76.3	4,115	95.1	10	59.9	24.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.6	624	14.4	8	10.9	14.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	25.4	1,107	25.6	6	24.4	0.8
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	35.7	1,368	40.2	7	36.9	12.8
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	23.3	886	26.0	10	20.6	11.6

SHERIDAN

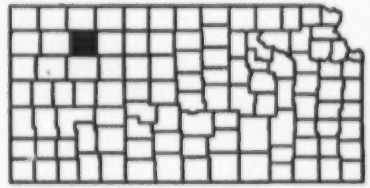
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.3	0	0.0	1	9.7	100.0
Children in Poverty	.	110	14.4	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	25.1	100	22.2	1	32.2	11.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.3	25	92.6	1	85.8	14.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	81.3	26	88.9	2	74.9	9.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.3	4	14.8	10	7.1	-17.2
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	49.5	6	60.2	5	53.1	21.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	20.7	100	20.8	7	26.6	0.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	89.9	39	90.7	1	77.7	0.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	5.4	0	0.0	1	18.7	100.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.1	43	93.5	3	81.8	-2.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	0.5	1	1.4	1	7.9	-180.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	33.4	16	21.9	1	59.9	34.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.3	9	12.3	7	10.9	-89.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	0.8	0	0.0	1	24.4	100.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,674	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.4%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.5%	86.3%
Black	0.0%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,182	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Hoxie



Sheridan County ranked in the best 10 percent in the state on an impressive eight indicators. This county experienced no births to single teens or to mothers with less than a high school degree. The rate of early prenatal care showed a small increase and not only exceeded the state average but also surpassed the *Healthy People 2010* goal. An area for improvement is this county's high rate of low-birth-weight babies. Also of concern is the child-care availability rate, which is quite a bit below the state average.

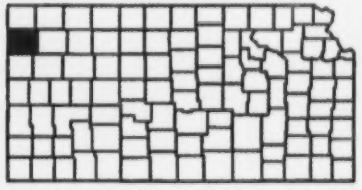
SHERMAN

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,523	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.8%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	89.3%	86.3%
Black	0.6%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	10.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,801	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.8%	3.4%

County Seat: Goodland



Sherman County is applauded for its top performance on getting children immunized. Another clear strength of this county is the high school graduation rate, where it achieved a perfect 100 percent. Unfortunately, the rate at which high school graduates go on to pursue post-secondary education or training is one of the lowest in the state. Also of concern is this county's poor ranking on the two child abuse indicators and the juvenile court filing rate, which all increased for the most recent year.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	14.4	7	7.1	4	9.7	51.0
Children in Poverty	.	380	21.9	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.0	407	34.0	5	32.2	8.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	60.0	1	78.7	9	26.2	31.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.7	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.8	89	89.9	3	85.8	4.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.1	66	92.6	1	74.9	32.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	10	10.1	9	7.1	44.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	74.3	34	85.2	3	53.1	14.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	24.5	322	27.2	3	26.6	10.9
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	73.6	50	68.5	10	77.7	6.9
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	18.3	18	18.4	7	18.7	0.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.2	73	100.0	1	81.8	10.9
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.1	10	6.0	6	7.9	17.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	75.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	50.7	180	106.9	10	59.9	111.5
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.5	36	21.4	9	10.9	28.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	43.5	86	51.1	10	24.4	17.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.3	74	25.8	1	36.9	17.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.3	40	14.2	3	20.6	1.1

SMITH

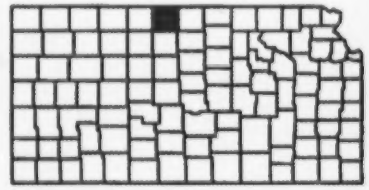
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.3	2	8.3	5	9.7	36.1
Children in Poverty	.	173	16.8	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	33.5	289	36.4	6	32.2	8.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.9	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.8	24	100.0	1	85.8	12.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	70.8	46	91.2	2	74.9	28.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.4	2	8.3	7	7.1	90.7
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	83.2	20	121.5	1	53.1	46.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	30.9	197	29.9	2	26.6	3.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	91.5	65	89.0	2	77.7	2.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	13.1	2	8.3	2	18.7	36.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	96.0	73	100.0	1	81.8	14.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.4	2	2.0	2	7.9	63.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	71.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.4	58	57.9	6	59.9	54.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.0	3	3.0	3	10.9	50.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	13.0	8	8.0	1	24.4	38.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	29.6	90	42.9	8	36.9	44.6
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	8.0	23	11.0	2	20.6	37.7

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,575	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	21.9%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	99.5%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.1%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,257	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.3%	3.4%

County Seat: Smith Center



Smith County can be proud of its top 10 percent rankings for the following rates: early prenatal care, Head Start participation, high school graduation and juvenile court filings. Particularly noteworthy are the achievements of 100 percent on the early prenatal care rate and the high school graduation rate. Moreover, this county is ranked in the top 20 percent on an additional six indicators. Substantial increases in the two child abuse indicators and the indicators on teens' use of alcohol and other drugs warrant attention.

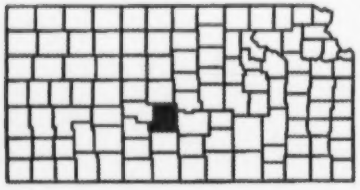
STAFFORD

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	4,996	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	95.6%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.5%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	3.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$29,419	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.6%	3.4%

County Seat: St. John



Stafford County made great strides in reducing the juvenile court filings rate and continuing its ranking in the top 20 percent of Kansas counties. Significant improvement also was made in reducing the percent of births to single teens and the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. On the negative side, one in five children in Stafford County lives in poverty. Furthermore, the percent of children approved for free school meals continued to increase. Since these indicators point to growing poverty, the significant decreases in Head Start participation are even more alarming.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	14.2	5	7.8	5	9.7	44.9
Children in Poverty	.	277	20.4	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	42.8	480	45.6	10	32.2	6.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	14.9	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	74.1	52	82.5	7	85.8	11.4
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.0	40	72.7	8	74.9	13.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	10.1	9	14.1	10	7.1	39.6
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	113.5	17	55.9	6	53.1	50.7
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.7	181	19.6	8	26.6	0.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	82.9	67	74.4	8	77.7	10.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	23.9	13	20.3	7	18.7	14.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	88.8	90	84.9	8	81.8	4.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.5	17	13.2	10	7.9	75.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	62.4	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	46.7	62	47.6	3	59.9	1.9
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	17.5	20	15.4	8	10.9	. 13.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.1	15	11.5	2	24.4	42.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	24.2	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	6.1	.	.	.	20.6	

STANTON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.2	7	17.9	10	9.7	
Children in Poverty	.	86	11.8	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.5	214	38.4	7	32.2	
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.7	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	77.1	30	76.9	9	85.8	
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	73.2	30	86.7	3	74.9	
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	4.3	6	15.4	10	7.1	
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	54.2	12	130.8	1	53.1	
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.0	117	23.2	6	26.6	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.1	35	94.6	1	77.7	
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	33.5	15	38.5	10	18.7	
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.7	37	100.0	1	81.8	
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	2.8	3	4.4	4	7.9	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	119.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.4	36	51.9	4	59.9	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	2.8	2	2.9	2	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	29.6	19	27.4	7	24.4	
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	20.6	

306

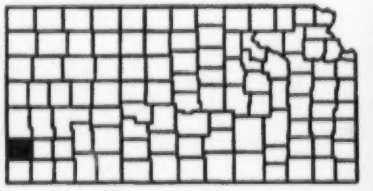
307

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,225	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	75.7%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	23.2%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$39,024	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.4%	3.4%

County Seat: Johnson City



Stanton County **is applauded for its respectable performance on several of the education indicators. Head Start participation dramatically increased. This county also achieved a 100 percent high school graduation rate and followed it with a high percent of graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. In stark contrast is Stanton County's poor ranking on the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Similarly, births to single teens increased and left this county ranked in the bottom 10 percent statewide. Also of serious concern is this county's poor performance on early prenatal care and low-birth-weight babies.**

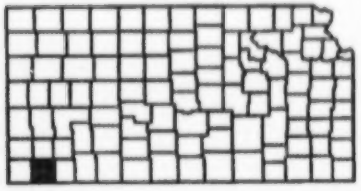
A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

STEVENS

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	5,400	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	82.6%	86.3%
Black	0.5%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	15.9%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$40,593	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.4%	3.4%

County Seat: Hugoton



Stevens County sustained a year without any childhood deaths, teen violent deaths or confirmed child abuse reports. This county also ranked in the top 20 percent on the rate of child abuse reports. Although Stevens County made some improvements on early prenatal care and immunization, it continued to rank poorly on these indicators. Also of concern are the education indicators. The rate at which high school graduates pursue post-secondary education or training decreased by a small amount, and the already low high school graduation rate fell even further. Continued increases and poor rankings on the two teen pregnancy indicators warrant special attention.

A project of Kansas Action for Children, Inc.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (← Worse / Better →)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	11.3	13	14.6	10	9.7	29.6
Children in Poverty	.	256	15.0	4	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.5	442	35.7	6	32.2	17.0
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	4.7	1	11.2	9	7.3	139.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	67.5	61	68.5	10	85.8	11.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	49.8	56	68.9	10	74.9	38.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.3	7	7.9	7	7.1	3.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	32.5	12	40.8	7	53.1	25.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.4	224	19.4	8	26.6	18.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	81.9	60	78.9	5	77.7	3.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	34.7	41	46.6	10	18.7	34.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	84.6	76	73.8	10	81.8	12.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.1	3	1.8	1	7.9	64.8
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	49.9	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	15.3	60	35.7	2	59.9	133.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	0.0	0	0.0	1	10.9	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	22.1	35	20.8	4	24.4	15.9
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	46.1	103	37.4	6	36.9	18.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	21.7	65	23.6	9	20.6	9.0

SUMNER

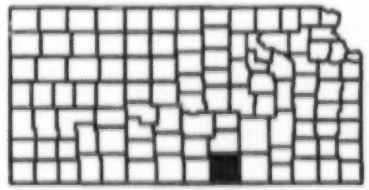
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse / Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.6	43	13.2	9	9.7	23.3
Children in Poverty	.	1,021	12.8	2	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.6	1,450	30.8	3	32.2	0.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	36.8	1	16.8	6	26.2	54.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.4	0	0.0	6	7.3	100.0
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	86.3	278	86.1	5	85.8	0.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	64.5	207	81.3	5	74.9	26.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.4	9	2.8	2	7.1	56.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	110.2	75	71.2	4	53.1	35.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.7	1,203	22.7	6	26.6	15.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	70.0	267	77.8	6	77.7	11.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	16.2	57	17.6	6	18.7	8.8
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.0	343	87.7	6	81.8	2.5
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	12.5	79	10.1	9	7.9	19.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	97.4	3	136.2	9	55.3	39.9
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	47.7	444	56.6	6	59.9	18.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	9.9	81	10.3	6	10.9	3.8
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.6	175	22.3	5	24.4	8.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.4	180	45.5	9	36.9	21.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	20.8	87	22.0	8	20.6	5.6

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	27,173	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.9%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	92.7%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	1.0%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.4%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	5.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$38,987	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	4.3%	3.4%

County Seat: Wellington



Sumner County continued to improve the rate at which low-birth-weight babies are born, earning a ranking in the top 20 percent of Kansas counties. Notable increases were seen in the immunization rate, the child-care availability rate and the percent of high school graduates pursuing post-secondary education or training. Trouble areas included increases on the two teen pregnancy indicators, the two child abuse indicators and the indicators relating to teens' use of alcohol and other drugs.

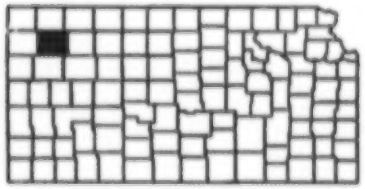
THOMAS

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	7,965	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	27.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	96.9%	86.3%
Black	0.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$34,654	$36,488
Unemployment	1.7%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Colby



Thomas County ranked in the top 10 percent of Kansas counties for its high percent of kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Remarkably, this county ranked in the top 20 percent on an additional seven indicators. Of these, the high school graduation rate is particularly noteworthy, as is the percent of graduates who go on to post-secondary education or training. Problem areas for Thomas County included undesirable increases on all but one of the Emotional Well-Being indicators. Also, serious attention should be paid to the decrease in the early prenatal care rate.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time: Worse	Percent Change Over Time: Better
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING							
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.0	11	11.6	8	9.7	15.6	
Children in Poverty	.	341	14.9	4	15.4		
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	28.8	425	28.8	3	32.2		0.2
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY							
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	22.2	0	.	.	26.2		
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.5	3	31.6	10	7.3	77.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.7	81	85.3	6	85.8		3.9
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	74.1	66	96.2	1	74.9		29.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	7.0	3	3.2	2	7.1		33.1
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION							
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	65.1	33	88.5	3	53.1		36.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	33.6	440	29.0	2	26.6	13.7	
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.7	95	88.8	2	77.7		3.6
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.2	9	9.5	2	18.7		15.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	87.6	107	95.5	2	81.8		9.0
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING							
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.6	19	8.8	8	7.9	56.7	
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	24.2	0	.	.	55.3		
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	43.1	146	66.2	7	59.9	53.6	
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	14.7	37	16.5	9	10.9	12.1	
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL							
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	19.2	33	15.0	2	24.4		22.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	31.0	105	34.1	4	36.9	10.0	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	9.2	33	10.8	2	20.6	17.2	

TREGO

	County Best Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	10.5	3	9.7	6	9.7	7.7
Children in Poverty	.	112	12.9	3	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	30.5	133	24.8	2	32.2	18.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	95.1	24	77.4	9	85.8	18.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	69.0	28	93.1	1	74.9	35.0
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	4	12.9	10	7.1	130.4
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.2	6	60.7	5	53.1	26.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.5	114	20.2	8	26.6	4.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	84.0	39	86.7	2	77.7	3.2
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	10.5	3	9.7	2	18.7	7.7
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	95.2	45	90.0	5	81.8	3.4
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	6.0	8	10.0	9	7.9	66.5
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	92.8	1	465.1	10	55.3	425.2
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	27.2	47	57.0	6	59.9	389.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	7.1	5	6.1	4	10.9	16.7
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	38.1	30	36.4	8	24.4	34.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	37.5	76	46.9	10	36.9	24.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	10.7	14	8.8	2	20.6	17.9

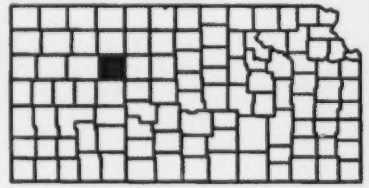
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,261	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.3%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	98.7%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.2%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.7%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,421	$36,488
Unemployment	1.5%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Wakeeney



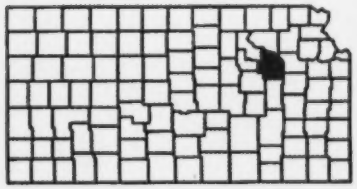
Trego County was a top performer at getting kindergartners fully immunized by age 2. Notable decreases were shown in the percent of children approved for free school meals, a proxy measure for child poverty. Also, there were decreases in the percent of births to single teens and the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Unfortunately, Trego County experienced problems with a low rate of early prenatal care and a high rate of low-birth-weight babies. This county also should attend to increases in the out-of-home placement rate and the percent of youth who reported using alcohol.

WABAUNSEE

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,578	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	26.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	96.1%	86.3%
Black	0.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.4%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	2.7%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$36,802	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.8%	3.4%

County Seat: Alma



Wabaunsee County should be proud of its top ranking on the percent of low-birth-weight babies and the rate of reported child abuse. Also, this county ranked in the top 20 percent on an additional three indicators: children approved for free school meals, early prenatal care and confirmed child abuse. Of concern are the increases seen in births to single teens as well as the percent of births to mothers with less than a high school degree. Also, this county should beware of the decreases in its high school graduation rate and the undesirable increases in all of the Social Behavior indicators.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.5	11	12.5	8	9.7	93.3
Children in Poverty	.	178	9.9	1	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	27.5	309	26.7	2	32.2	12.8
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	29.1	1	74.6	9	26.2	184.2
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	89.5	80	90.9	2	85.8	1.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	71.1	56	86.9	3	74.9	22.3
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.4	1	1.1	1	7.1	78.9
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.4	15	75.3	4	53.1	8.6
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	17.9	244	19.8	8	26.6	10.7
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	75.4	69	76.7	7	77.7	1.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	8.6	12	13.6	4	18.7	38.4
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	92.2	90	86.5	7	81.8	6.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.9	6	3.5	3	7.9	41.4
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	41.3	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.8	18	10.3	1	59.9	72.8
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.7	2	1.1	2	10.9	33.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	14.2	48	27.4	7	24.4	93.1
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	39.7	136	45.0	9	36.9	13.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	13.2	55	18.3	6	20.6	38.4

WALLACE

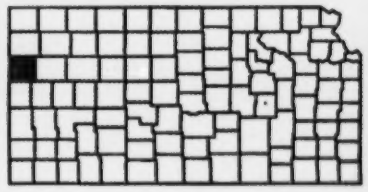
	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.8	1	5.3	3	9.7	22.4
Children in Poverty	.	91	17.1	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.9	148	34.6	5	32.2	8.7
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	51.5	1	265.3	10	26.2	-144.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.0	12	63.2	10	85.8	-19.0
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	75.7	29	90.5	2	74.9	19.5
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.1	1	5.3	3	7.1	-3.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	104.3	17	207.4	1	53.1	98.9
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	19.8	63	18.1	9	26.6	-9.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.7	18	78.3	6	77.7	-8.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	12.8	2	10.5	3	18.7	17.9
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	97.8	23	100.0	1	81.8	2.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	5.1	1	2.0	2	7.9	60.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	253.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	41.0	63	124.3	10	59.9	-81.3
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	27.1	11	21.7	9	10.9	21.4
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.8	11	21.7	5	24.4	-89.0
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	.	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	.	.	.	.	20.6	

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	1,801	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.2%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	92.8%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.3%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	6.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,682	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	1.6%	3.4%

County Seat: Sharon Springs



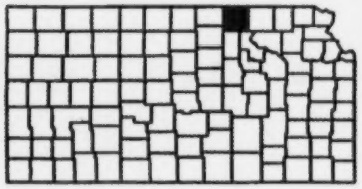
Wallace County boasts a perfect high school graduation rate. This county also ranked in the top 10 percent on the rate at which eligible children participate in Head Start. Another notable strength includes a high immunization rate. In contrast, Wallace County had very low rates for early prenatal care and child-care availability. The growth in reported child abuse also warrants attention.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	6,473	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.7%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	99.3%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.1%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.0%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	0.5%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,557	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	2.8%	3.4%

County Seat: Washington



Washington County ranked in the best 10 percent of the state for the following indicators: births to single teens, child-care availability and youths reporting drug use. This county also celebrated a top 20 percent ranking on early prenatal care, immunizations and high school graduation. On the negative side, a red flag is raised by the dramatic increase in reports of child abuse. Washington County also ranked poorly on teen use of alcohol. The substantial increase in low-birth-weight babies should also send a message of caution and concern to this county.

WASHINGTON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	5.9	2	2.7	1	9.7	33.8
Children in Poverty	.	274	16.7	5	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	37.3	515	36.4	6	32.2	12.3
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	32.1	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	88.4	67	91.8	2	85.8	13.8
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	72.7	73	88.2	2	74.9	21.2
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	5.6	5	6.8	5	7.1	31.3
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	82.5	20	86.5	3	53.1	54.8
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	36.4	372	35.9	1	26.6	1.5
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	85.3	90	78.9	5	77.7	7.4
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	7.4	12	16.4	5	18.7	123.6
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	94.9	114	95.0	2	81.8	0.1
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	1.7	5	3.2	3	7.9	88.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	23.7	101	63.2	7	59.9	167.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	3.1	11	6.9	4	10.9	128.6
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	12.4	34	21.3	5	24.4	71.2
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	38.8	52	42.6	8	36.9	9.9
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	6.9	9	7.3	1	20.6	5.4

WICHITA

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	6.6	6	14.0	9	9.7	111.4
Children in Poverty	.	144	17.5	6	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	34.8	169	34.3	5	32.2	11.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	59.4	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	10.2	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	74.4	34	79.1	8	85.8	6.3
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	68.7	27	87.1	3	74.9	26.8
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	10.7	5	11.6	10	7.1	9.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	62.1	8	61.3	5	53.1	1.2
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	16.1	104	18.2	9	26.6	13.3
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.4	43	93.5	1	77.7	12.1
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	25.9	11	25.6	9	18.7	1.2
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	86.1	46	83.6	8	81.8	2.3
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	9.3	3	3.9	4	7.9	58.1
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	16.1	26	32.5	2	59.9	101.1
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	1.2	2	2.5	2	10.9	108.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	15.8	4	5.0	1	24.4	68.4
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	47.7	52	43.2	9	36.9	9.4
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	14.6	20	16.7	4	20.6	14.0

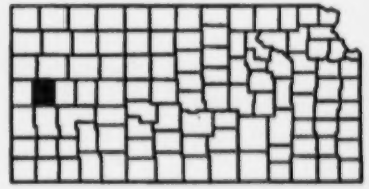
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	2,578	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	31.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	81.9%	86.3%
Black	0.1%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.5%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	17.4%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$35,341	$36,488
Unemployment	2.3%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Leoti



Wichita County should be proud of its top performances on juvenile court filings and the percent of high school gradustes pursuing post-secondary education or training. Although increases occurred in reported and confirmed child abuse, this county continued to rank in the top 20 percent on these indicators. Also, Wichita County made significant strides in improving the immunization rate. Deserving of attention is the poor ranking and the increase in the percent of births to single teens. Also, this county ranked in the bottom 10 percent of the state on low-birth-weight babies. Particularly troubling is this county's low high school graduation rate, which slightly declined.

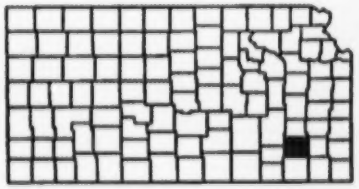
WILSON

DEMOGRAPHICS
Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	10,339	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	25.6%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.6%	86.3%
Black	0.3%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.8%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.3%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.3%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$28,111	$36,488
Unemployment	3.2%	3.4%

(1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Fredonia



Wilson County should be proud of increasing its rate of early prenatal care above the state average. Additional improvements were experienced in substantially reducing the percent of births to single teens and a moderate decrease in reports of child abuse. Unfortunately, the rate of births to mothers with less than a high school degree increased. This county also has a relatively high rate of child poverty and a high out-of-home placement rate, which significantly increased. Other concerns include an increased rate of confirmed child abuse and an already high rate of juvenile court filings.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	14.3	13	10.0	7	9.7	30.3
Children in Poverty	.	598	22.3	9	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	43.6	928	43.4	9	32.2	0.5
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	29.8	2	101.3	10	26.2	229.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	5.1	1	7.7	8	7.3	50.3
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	83.4	114	87.7	4	85.8	5.2
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	56.1	103	77.2	7	74.9	37.6
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.3	10	7.7	6	7.1	21.8
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	65.4	10	15.4	8	53.1	76.4
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.4	405	23.1	6	26.6	8.1
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	71.6	103	79.8	5	77.7	11.3
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	22.6	38	29.2	9	18.7	39.3
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	80.0	129	80.6	9	81.8	0.8
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	8.1	32	12.1	9	7.9	48.3
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	159.2	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	76.8	173	65.5	7	59.9	14.7
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	21.3	61	23.1	10	10.9	8.9
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	27.6	103	39.0	9	24.4	41.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.3	85	34.0	4	36.9	6.5
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	16.5	44	17.6	5	20.6	6.8

WOODSON

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL-BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	9.3	4	11.4	8	9.7	22.4
Children in Poverty	.	221	22.8	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	40.0	247	41.7	9	32.2	4.4
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	.	0	.	.	26.2	
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	0.0	0	.	.	7.3	
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	85.7	32	91.4	2	85.8	6.7
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	50.1	17	83.3	4	74.9	66.4
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	6.6	2	5.7	3	7.1	13.5
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	52.0	40	161.5	1	53.1	210.5
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	9.4	66	10.3	10	26.6	9.6
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	83.0	33	86.8	2	77.7	14.7
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	11.5	4	11.4	3	18.7	11.0
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	90.3	38	88.4	6	81.8	2.2
EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	7.3	6	6.5	6	7.9	11.6
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	.	0	.	.	55.3	
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	37.8	48	51.1	4	59.9	35.2
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	5.3	18	19.2	9	10.9	265.0
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	20.8	12	12.8	2	24.4	30.5
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	41.9	97	51.1	10	36.9	21.7
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	11.4	31	16.3	4	20.6	33.3

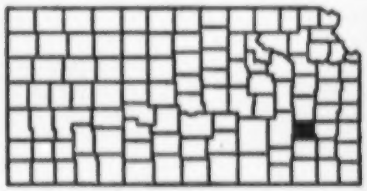
DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	3,911	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	24.0%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	97.7%	86.3%
Black	0.4%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	0.2%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	1.0%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$26,400	$36,488
Unemployment	4.7%	3.4%

(1990 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)

County Seat: Yates Center



Woodson County is a top performer on Head Start participation. This county also achieved a high rate of early prenatal care, attaining the *Healthy People 2010* goal. Woodson County celebrated a notable decrease in the rate of juvenile court filings, which earned a ranking in the top 20 percent of the state. Concerns for this county can be seen on all of the Economic Well-Being indicators. More than one in five children in Woodson County live in poverty. Other trouble areas include a low rate of child-care availability as well as substantial increases in the rates of reported and confirmed child abuse.

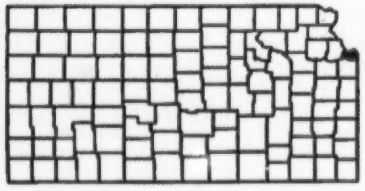
WYANDOTTE

DEMOGRAPHICS

Based on 1990 U.S. Census

	County	State
Population Size	151,379	2,654,052
Percent Population Under Age 18	28.1%	26.3%
Ethnicity		
White, non-Hispanic	59.8%	86.3%
Black	28.7%	5.9%
American Indian, Eskimo or Aleut	0.7%	0.9%
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.6%	1.8%
Hispanic Origin (All Races)	10.1%	5.6%
Median Family Income	$30,056	$36,488
Unemployment (1999 data provided by Kansas Dept. Of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services)	6.2%	3.4%

County Seat: Kansas City



Wyandotte County made great strides in improving the Childhood Care indicators. The Head Start participation rate surpassed the state average. This county saw a notable increase in the immunization rate. Also, the teen violent death rate decreased considerably. Still, Wyandotte County has a number of concerns. More than one in four children live in poverty, and the percent of children approved for free school meals continued to increase. Sadly, the infant mortality rate significantly increased, and the juvenile court filings rate continued to grow. Of particular concern is this county's very low high school graduation rate.

	County Base Rate	Current Year: Actual Number	Current Year: County Rate	Current Year: Decile Rank	Current Year: Kansas	Percent Change Over Time (Worse ← → Better)
ECONOMIC WELL BEING						
Percent of All Births That Are to Single Teens	18.5	507	18.1	10	9.7	1.9
Children in Poverty	.	12,028	27.6	10	15.4	
Percent of Children Approved for Free School Meals	56.5	16,204	58.5	10	32.2	3.6
PHYSICAL HEALTH & SAFETY						
Childhood Death Rate, Ages 1-14, per 100,000 Children	38.3	11	33.8	8	26.2	11.6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	9.3	32	11.4	9	7.3	23.5
Percent of Births with Early Prenatal Care	78.8	2,204	79.2	8	85.8	0.6
Percent of Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2	41.0	1,028	56.0	10	74.9	36.7
Percent of Low-Birth-Weight Babies	8.7	232	8.3	7	7.1	5.2
CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION						
Percent Head Start Participation of Children 3-4 Living Below the Poverty Line	61.6	854	65.3	5	53.1	6.0
Child Care Availability Rate for Children Under Age 13	21.3	7,172	23.9	5	26.6	12.0
Percent of High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training	72.7	1,039	73.8	8	77.7	1.5
Percent of All Births to Mothers With Less Than a High School Degree	30.4	909	32.7	9	18.7	7.5
Percent of Students Graduating from High School	67.3	1,408	62.9	10	81.8	6.6
EMOTIONAL WELL BEING						
Out-of-Home Placement Rate per 1,000 Children Age 18 and under	15.8	511	12.1	9	7.9	23.0
Teen Violent Death Rate per 100,000 Children Ages 15-19	157.3	15	120.1	8	55.3	236.6
Reported Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	78.1	3,417	80.2	8	59.9	3.6
Confirmed & Substantiated Child Abuse and Neglect per 1,000 Children	12.7	609	14.3	8	10.9	11.3
SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL						
Juvenile Court Filings per 1,000 Children	36.2	1,707	40.1	9	24.4	10.6
Percent of Youth Who Used Alcohol in the Past 30 Days	36.4	.	.	.	36.9	
Percent of Youth Who Ever Used Other Drugs	32.7	.	.	.	20.6	

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DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

Births to Single Teens is the percentage of live births that occur to unmarried women under the age of 20. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment provides data by calendar year.

Children in Poverty is an estimate of the percentage of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold as defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. The estimates are based on the U.S. Census Bureau's 1997 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE). Currently, available data report family income for 1997. In calendar year 1997, the poverty threshold for a family of four persons was $16,400.

Children Approved for Free School Meals is the percentage of children enrolled in school in an academic year who have been approved for free school meals. Data are from the Kansas State Department of Education.

PHYSICAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Childhood Deaths, Ages 1-14 (per 100,000 children) is the number of deaths from all causes per 100,000 children ages 1 through 14. Data regarding childhood deaths by calendar year are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Population data are obtained from estimates made by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births) is the number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births in the last calendar year. The data were provided by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Births with Early Prenatal Care is the percentage of births in the last calendar year that are to women who started prenatal care in the first three months of their pregnancy as indicated on the birth certificate. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Kindergartners Fully Immunized by Age 2 is the percentage of children in kindergarten who had received all recommended immunizations by age 2. It is based on a retrospective survey of immunization certificates done each fall at the time of enrollment in kindergarten. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Low-Birth-Weight Babies is the percentage of live births in a calendar year that are recorded as low-birth-weight. Babies of low birth weight are those who weigh under 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth. The data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

CHILDHOOD CARE & EDUCATION

Head Start Participation is the number of Head Start enrollment slots divided by the estimated number of children ages 3 to 5 living in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold. Rates are expressed as percentages. Data on Head Start enrollment are from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Region VII. Data on children in poverty are based on poverty estimates (Children in Poverty indicator above) and population estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Child-Care Availability is the capacity of registered day-care homes, licensed day-care homes, group day-care homes, child-care centers and preschools per 100 children under age 13 in the population. The child-care data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Population estimates for children under age 13 are from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

High School Graduates Pursuing Post-Secondary Education/Training is the percentage of the last year's high school graduating class that are enrolled in post-secondary education or training (four-year college or university, two-year college, other type of college or other non-college institution) five to six months after graduation. Data are from school districts' annual survey of graduates compiled by the Kansas State Department of Education.

Births to Mothers with Less than a High School Degree is the percent of live births in the past calendar year that occurred to women who had not received a high school degree as indicated on the birth certificate. Data are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Students Graduating High School is the percentage of ninth-grade public school students who graduated four years later. Rates are calculated by dividing the number of graduates by the sum of graduates and dropouts from grades nine through 12. Data are from the Kansas State Department of Education.

DATA NOTES AND SOURCES

EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Teen Violent Deaths, Ages 15-19 (per 100,000 teens) is the number of deaths in a calendar year from homicides, suicides and accidents to teens ages 15 through 19 per 100,000 teens of those ages. The data for teen deaths are from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. Teen population estimates are from the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Reported Child Abuse/Neglect Rate is the number of official child abuse/neglect reports per 1,000 children in the population under age 18. Data on child abuse/neglect reports are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Substantiated Child Abuse/Neglect Rate is the number of cases substantiated upon investigation of child abuse/neglect (child protective services worker determines that abuse or neglect occurred) per 1,000 children and youth under age 18. Data on child abuse/neglect reports are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Out-of-Home Placement Rate is the number of children and youth who are in SRS custody and in placement outside their family of origin per 1,000 children and youth age 18 and under. The count is obtained from a single month (June 2000) and is therefore not indicative of the cumulative number of children in out-of-home placement during the entire year. Data on children in placement are from the Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

SOCIAL BEHAVIOR & SOCIAL CONTROL

Juvenile Court Filings is the number of court filings for juvenile offenders between July and June of a given fiscal year per 1,000 children and youth under the age of 18. Data on the number of filings are from the *Annual Report on the Courts of Kansas*, Office of Judicial Administration. Data on the population of children under 18 are from estimates provided by the U.S. Census Bureau.[1]

Youth Who Report Using Alcohol in the Past 30 Days is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12 who indicated any use of alcohol in the 30 days prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

Youth Who Report Binge Drinking is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12 who indicated taking five or more consecutive drinks on one occasion prior to completing a survey on alcohol and other drug use. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

Youth Who Have Ever Used Other Drugs is the percentage of youth in grades six, eight, 10 and 12 responding to an annual survey who indicated any use of the following drugs: marijuana, cocaine, inhalants or LSD. The percentage of children completing the survey in each county varies from year to year and may make the data unreliable. Data are provided by the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Unemployment is the percent of civilian labor force estimated to be unemployed. Annual estimates are provided by the Kansas Department of Human Resources, Labor Market Information Services.

Median Family Income is the annual family income that half the families in Kansas exceed and half fall below. These data are 1997 Census estimates. Families are two or more persons who are related by birth, marriage or adoption and who live together as one household. All other measures of demographic characteristics are from Census Bureau's 1999 estimates.

[1] The Population Estimates Program produces for counties each year: total population estimates and county estimates by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin. The release of total population estimates in the winter also includes demographic components of change. In the summer, the program releases the estimates by age, sex, race and Hispanic origin. The reference date for county population estimates is July 1. For more information, contact the Population Division's Statistical Information Staff at (301) 457-2422